

**Bottoms up! Virginia appeals court
overturns ruling in favor of lesbian
mom Sharon Bottoms's visiting rights.**
page 18

**Beat era master
William S. Burroughs
dies at the age of 83.**
page 19

**A chat with Edward Albee,
a playwright who happens to
be gay, on 'Three Tall Women.'**
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 32 • 7 August 1997

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Police looking into Polk Street gay- bashing

by Dennis Conkin

A gay man's finger was broken, a rib cracked, and his face given several stitches under his left eye following a Sunday, August 3 altercation involving a group of eight Asian youths on Polk Street.

Travis Ruiall says that he, his partner and two friends were walking down Polk Street near Sacramento when a group of youths standing on the street by a donut shop near Sacramento and Polk accosted him.

Ruiall told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he and his companions had just left the Cinch Bar when one of the youths allegedly yelled out the anti-gay epithet, "Faggot."

When he challenged the youths by asking, "What?" Ruiall said that he was attacked and repeatedly punched and kicked by the youths. Ruiall said he believed the youths were between 16 and 19 years of age.

He said the incident was being treated as a "mutual combat situation" by police, but that it was actually a gay-bashing. Ruiall said he was told that once the police investigation is concluded, the case will be referred to the District Attorney for a determination about prosecution.

A San Francisco police department hate crimes inspector declined to discuss the case, except to confirm that the incident was described by reporting officers as a mutual combat situation, and that everyone named in the report is considered a victim until the investigation ascertains the facts of the incident.

Ruiall told the *B.A.R.* that the alleged attack "was probably over in a minute," and that he screamed "bloody murder" as a crowd of an estimated 50 people gathered on Polk Street to witness the fracas.

"I was pissed off that everybody was standing around watching, but nobody was doing anything," Ruiall said.

Ruiall said that he was "treated fairly" by the police who called a city ambulance for him, and that he was called by a hate crimes inspector the day after the weekend attack.

Ruiall has also contacted Community United Against Violence. ▼

TILTING AT WINDMILLS SF newspaper stirs up homophobia

by Dennis Conkin

Gay male cruising in Golden Gate Park's windmill area is no big deal, and heterosexual families who may also use the area have nothing to be afraid of, says Jeff Sheehy, president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Democratic Club.

Sheehy made the comments in response to mention of the decades-popular gay cruising site in a recent *San Francisco Chronicle* series about the park.

"They actually said that people were frightened by the gay cruising that goes on. They are creating fear where no fear exists. Thousands of people go to the Castro Street Fair and go to the Folsom Street Fair, where gay cruising goes on. They are creating an artificial climate for fear and hostility toward gay male sexuality and gay men," Sheehy charged.

While cruising in the area may be popular, soliciting someone to have public sex is illegal, as is sex in a public place, and park codes that require people to stay on the paths are strictly enforced.

An estimated six citations are issued per month at the site, according to San Francisco Police Lieutenant Mike Kemmit, who heads the department's tactical command unit that patrols the area with trail bikes.

One gay man who would only identify himself as Rob told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he was at the site on Sunday, August 3, and quickly discovered that police are serious about enforcement in the area after an officer on a trail bike pulled up and confronted him.

"Sometimes I go there to meet other gay men. He asked me what I was doing in there," Rob said. "I said I was walking around. Fifty feet up the path, there were straight people off the path in the direction that I had just come from. I felt like I was the target. I was shocked."

Rob said that the officer pointed to "an aged sign" that was posted about path regulations.

"Then he said, 'I know your face now, and if I ever see your face here again, I'm going to cite you.' I was so shocked I was slack-jawed."

Rob said that the cruising area no longer has the allure that it once had, that it's less popular, and that's it's gotten dirtier.

But whether the area is less popular or not, Sheehy said that the *Chronicle* needlessly pitted "gay men against families" and was trying to "create a scandal" where there is none.

"Gay men cruising may not be appealing to everyone, but there's no reason for anyone to be frightened," he said.

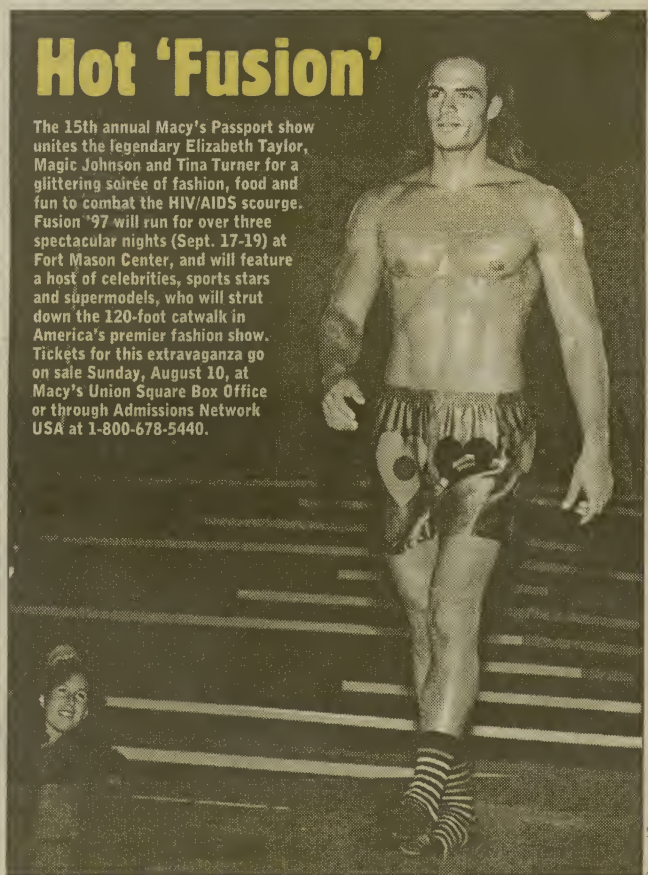
Following the series of articles, Supervisor Tom Ammiano has announced he will hold public hearings about the conditions in Golden Gate Park. Hearing dates have not been set. ▼



Chron con: Gay windmill wooing poses no threat.

Hot 'Fusion'

The 15th annual Macy's Passport show unites the legendary Elizabeth Taylor, Magic Johnson and Tina Turner for a glittering soiree of fashion, food and fun to combat the HIV/AIDS scourge. Fusion '97 will run for over three spectacular nights (Sept. 17-19) at Fort Mason Center, and will feature a host of celebrities, sports stars and supermodels, who will strut down the 120-foot catwalk in America's premier fashion show. Tickets for this extravaganza go on sale Sunday, August 10, at Macy's Union Square Box Office or through Admissions Network USA at 1-800-678-5440.



Raymond Tom

INSIDE

ACT UP	21
BAR Talk	44
Calendare	42
Classifieds	23
GLAAD	12
Mailstrom	7
Mister Marcus	40
Obituaries	20
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	9
Out & About	42
Out There	31
Past Out	11
Personals	47
Sapphistication	10
Sports Complex	22

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Getting a 'Reality' check

Anal condoms rank
high among gay men

by Cynthia Laird

For gay men interested in anal sex, last Saturday's community forum presented by the Stop AIDS Project had it all, from a variety of sex toys to a porn star demonstrating condom usage. About 50 men attended the August 2 meeting, during which preliminary results of Stop AIDS Project's anal condom survey were distributed.

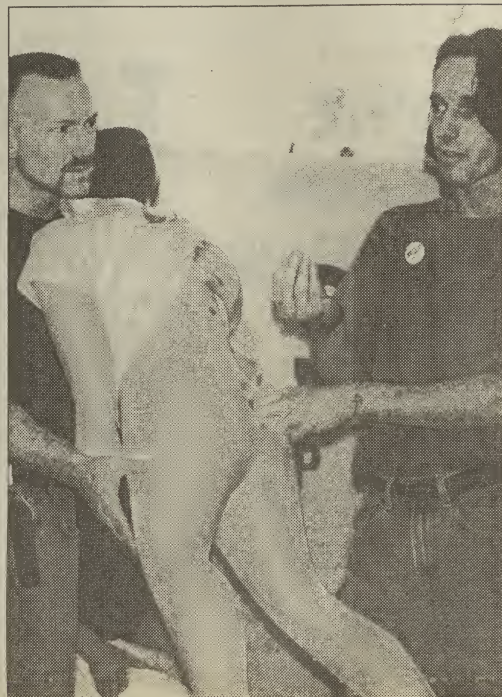
The Reality condom, also known as the female condom, was a focal point of the afternoon. Porn star Will Clark and Stop AIDS staff member Steven Gibson used a blow-up doll to demonstrate how to use the Reality condom, and a supply was on hand for people to take with them. Unlike penile condoms, the Reality condom is worn by the receptive partner (bottom) and inserted prior to beginning intercourse.

The city's Department of Public Health (DPH) AIDS Office and Stop AIDS Project conducted the anal condom survey that included 100 gay or bisexual men. Of the respondents, 35 were HIV-positive and 62 were HIV-negative. Overall, participants used the Reality condoms 334 times in the six months prior to answering the survey; 147 for insertive anal sex and 187 for receptive anal sex.

Approval for the Reality condom was very high; 86 percent of the respondents said they would use the condom again, and 54 percent said they would rather use the Reality condom than a conventional condom. Some tops have said that the Reality offers more freedom of movement.

Another key finding of the survey was that men who are not in monogamous relationships rated the Reality condom significantly higher than men in monogamous relationships. For men in monogamous relationships, the approval rating for the anal condom was higher among serodiscordant couples; these couples also reported they are more likely to use the condom again.

Overwhelmingly, the preferred method of inserting the condom was placing it inside the receptive partner prior to beginning sex. During the demonstration, Gibson pointed out that the inner ring can be removed; in the study, 84 percent of the men did not remove the inner ring. About 33 percent of the respondents reported some difficulty inserting



Facing Reality: Will Clark, a real doll, and Steven Gibson get intimate.

the condom. The most frequent complaints were pain or irritation, the condom "bunching up," unpleasant texture, and "too noisy."

One of the obstacles to Reality condoms continues to be the high price (\$10 for a package of three) compared to latex condoms, which are much cheaper and, in some cases, available free in the city.

There were only two cases of Reality condom breakage reported in the study.

Stop AIDS Project staff noted that while neither the Reality condom nor latex condoms have been approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use during anal intercourse, both are approved for the prevention of pregnancy and disease, including HIV, during vaginal intercourse.


Bareback sex

"Bareback sex," the latest wave of controversy sweeping the gay male community, was also discussed at the forum. The term refers to men having unprotected

sex with one another, in some cases men demanding unprotected sex from their partners. Clark, who's made a number of porn videos in Southern California and on the East Coast, said he doesn't remember exactly when the bareback trend started; however, it does concern him. He said that while making videos, condoms are handed out frequently on the set by staff, yet on some occasions, those same staff members will want to have unprotected sex with the film stars.

Also during the forum, Matt Denkla of Stop AIDS Project passed around a number of sex toys, and Clark shared some humorous experiences around anal sex. Both he and Denkla pointed out the importance of using items that have flanged bottoms so that they can be removed, thus avoiding a potentially embarrassing trip to the emergency room. ▼

For more information about Stop AIDS Project or the Reality condom, call (415) 621-7177, ext. 258



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HIV+ women will retreat to Sonoma for WORLD's 11th event

by Cynthia Laird

An estimated 50 women living with HIV are expected to attend the 11th retreat sponsored by Women Organized to Respond to Life-Threatening Diseases (WORLD). The August 15-17 retreat will be held in scenic Sonoma, and nearly half of the spaces are being reserved for first-timers, according to organizers.

Retreat coordinator Sandi Luna told the B.A.R. that scholarships of up to \$100 per person are still available to help offset expenses for those attending for the first time. The scholarships will be funded through a grant that WORLD received from the AIDS Walk, Luna explained.

The weekend promises to offer women an array of activities and support sessions, including art projects, massage, yoga, and dance classes.

Workshops will address such topics as antiretroviral therapy, protease inhibitors, complementary therapies, disclosure, gynecology, safer sex, and more, Luna said. The retreat is drug- and alcohol-free, she added.

WORLD's 10th retreat was

Susan Leal proposes change for domestic partners & business owners

by Cynthia Laird

Supervisor Susan Leal introduced legislation Monday, August 4, that, if approved, would change provisions of the municipal code that place extra administrative burdens on domestic partners who own businesses.

"This legislation will ensure that domestic partners are on equal footing with married couples in applying for marriage licenses," Leal said.

Under current law, married couples who own a business jointly need only obtain one business license. Domestic partners who own a business jointly, however, are required to obtain duplicate licenses. Leal's legislation will ensure that wherever the city's Business Tax Ordinance treats married couples as a single person, it will likewise treat domestic partners as a single unit.

"San Francisco has been a national leader in eliminating discrimination against domestic partners," said Leal. "This ordinance brings the city one step closer to treating married couples and domestic partners on an equal basis." ▼

held in Healdsburg last May; about 100 women, 85 of them HIV-positive, attended. Luna said the August retreat will be similar, although "every retreat is a little different."

Participants are usually a little nervous upon arriving, but Luna said that quickly dissipated at the May retreat, once the women started taking part in the activities and support sessions. By the last day, many women wanted the retreat to continue. People who didn't know each other two days earlier shared with one another, with in those 48 hours, personal and intimate stories about their lives.

"When it's over, we pile onto the grass to take the ever-treasured group photo," said Luna. "Being in it is optional, but all

participants will get a copy."

Fees for next month's retreat run \$200 per person without the scholarships. Transportation assistance is also available. People should contact Luna for applications for either of those services.

The retreat will be held at Westerbecke Ranch, which was built in the 1930s. Views will be magnificent, as the ranch sits on a hill where it is surrounded by flower gardens. ▼

For scholarship and transportation applications, or for more information, call Luna at (510) 658-6930. Westerbecke Ranch has limited wheelchair accessibility; WORLD can provide additional details.

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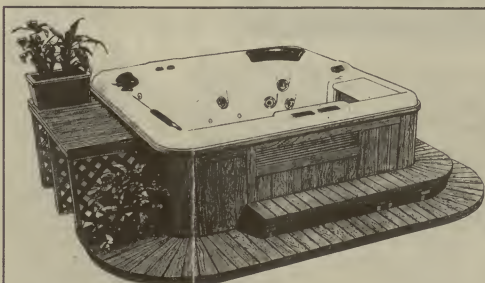
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Fetish Kinkdom fights to stay in business

by Shan Schwartz

When Rick Simon opened his store, Fetish Kinkdom, he wanted to create a unique place where people could come to find things they wouldn't normally find in a standard video store. He thought his dream had been realized until KRON-TV and a small group of parents and teachers from a nearby school came into his life.

Fetish Kinkdom was featured on Channel 4's evening news in late June in a story about how parents and teachers of Bessie Carmichael Elementary School had fought another sex store nearby and then, on the day that it opened, had fought Fetish Kinkdom.

Sandwiched between news stories of a child's funeral and a ruling on sexual predator laws, KRON's story said the parents and teachers were upset by the storefront's displays. The story also revealed a city code that prohibits any new adult-oriented businesses from opening in the South of Market area.

KRON included a brief interview with a clerk at Fetish Kinkdom but gave no specific information on the store's window display or merchandise.

Simon told the B.A.R. that he was never aware of a law prohibiting new adult businesses in SoMa, and he thought everything was okay after he went through the procedure of getting a city business license. He was made aware of the city code only after the school's teachers and parents made the fuss with KRON.

"We asked if we needed any special permits for a store like this, and the woman [at the city



Rick Simon: "It's hardly what I'd call a family-oriented area."

office] said no," Simon said. "They gave us the license, they never said anything to us, and all of a sudden, when this came about, they said, 'Oh yeah, there can be no more adult entertainment in this area.'"

"They tell us after the fact that it was our responsibility to find out if it was legal to open our store in this area."

Simon said he chose his South of Market location, 1042 Folsom Street, because he thought it would be appropriate for a store of his type.

"I really thought of the South of Market area as an open, accept-

ing place. But obviously they're trying to make it a different situation," Simon said. "It's hardly what I'd call a family-oriented area. That school is the only thing family-oriented within a large radius of where I'm at."

Tickling prohibited

And Simon said he was conscious of the display he put in his window when he opened the store. Three video boxes featured someone being tickled, someone having their toes sucked, and a group of men standing with their shirts off.

"Those boxes I chose to be as tame as possible," Simon said. "There are so many other places in this town that show stuff five times as bad. The kids could take a drive home with their parents, or watch TV, and see things much worse than what they'll see in the window of our store."

Simon said he was especially upset that the concerned parents or teachers have never contacted him directly.

"None of the teachers or parents or anyone ever came to me and said, 'We don't like those boxes,'" Simon said. "We're not there to try to make problems. But nobody ever addressed any of their concerns with us. They just went straight to the media."

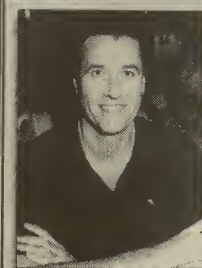
Simon said he removed the "offensive" materials from his storefront, and he said the lack of a display has certainly hurt his business.

The only thing left for Simon to do is appeal to the city to let him keep his business open. He said the planning commission contacted them following the KRON story, and Simon let them know he wanted to do what was necessary to keep the store open.

Keeping Fetish Kinkdom open would require a variance of city code, which would require approval from several city officials. It's an expensive process, and would get even more expensive if it receives much opposition.

"We're keeping our fingers crossed, hoping we'll be able to stay in business," Simon said. "But it's not going to be worth it to me to have to pay \$25,000 to keep the store open." ▼

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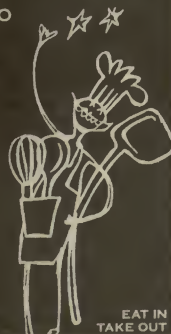
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'Sex crime' class action suit filed

by Dennis Conkin

A Bakersfield, California man whose life was ruined after he was arrested and convicted on gay-related sex crime charges has filed a class action civil rights lawsuit in the case after discovering that soliciting someone in a public park to have sex in a private residence is not a crime.

It is illegal to solicit someone to commit a lewd act in a public place such as a rest stop or park or other public venue.

The July 31 civil rights lawsuit filed by the Reverend Robert Fosse in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California names the City of Bakersfield and Kern County, California as defendants.

Also named in the multimillion dollar class action lawsuit are Bakersfield Chief of Police Steven Brummer and Edward Jagels, the Kern County District Attorney. Brummer and Jagels are

named as individuals and in their official capacities in the lawsuit filed by the law offices of Paul Wotman.

Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the claims of the class—possibly thousands of gay and bisexual men who have been targeted by police for such arrests, even though they have committed no crimes—are serious enough that a federal court injunction prohibiting such arrests by police officers and other law enforcement officials should be issued.

"You'd think that a district attorney would know that it was not illegal," Wotman said. "But this is a pattern that goes on all over the place. I am hoping that people will come forward and expand the class."

Anti-gay motivation

Wotman said that there was a clear anti-gay motivation to the police practice, and pointed out that a Bakersfield officer had allegedly once defended the prac-

tice by saying that "we don't want these people to meet in the park."

Wotman told the *B.A.R.* that the civil rights violations include violations of the rights to free speech, assembly, search and seizure protections, and other constitutional rights and protections.

Fosse, an Episcopal priest, was arrested in August 1995 by a Bakersfield police officer for the misdemeanor sex offense after a police officer drove up to Fosse's car, which was parked in a Bakersfield park, and drew Fosse into a conversation.

The police officer suggested that Fosse go with him to a motel for private, consensual sexual activity. Fosse agreed but was pulled over by another police car and then arrested—without a warrant or probable cause—for soliciting a lewd act in public.

Jagels prosecuted Fosse on the sexual solicitation charge, and Bakersfield Municipal Court Judge Frank Howard ordered him to take an HIV test as part of the criminal sentence, even though he admitted from the bench he was not sure he had the legal authority to do so, according to Wotman.

Although the closeted priest tried to keep his arrest and conviction a secret, his wife of 37 years soon discovered that he had been ordered to take an HIV test and that he had been arrested for soliciting homosexual sex, and filed for divorce.

page 13 ►

Religious apologies

United Press International

The Episcopal Church has apologized to gays and lesbians for years of rejection and mistreatment by the church. The House of Bishops and House of Deputies, composed of clergy and lay leaders, approved the apology on behalf of the church's 2.5 million followers. Church leaders ended a 10-day national convention in Philadelphia last Friday.

Meanwhile, the bishop of the Dallas Roman Catholic Diocese has apologized to the sex abuse victims who won a \$119 million judgment Thursday against the diocese and a priest. Bishop Charles Graham told parishioners of an area church Sunday he is "profoundly sorry" for what happened to the victims who sued the diocese and former priest Rudy Kos.

Graham hoped to personally apologize to the 10 former altar boys during Mass at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, but they refused to attend the service when they learned of his plan to make an apology during the service. Most of the victims want personal apologies in private from the bishop. ▼

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CHIPS ahoy?

The announcement Monday, August 4 by the housing task force of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council that the CHIPS (Centralized Housing and Information Placement Service) waiting list will not be used for the council's newly funded shallow rent subsidy program was a surprise to some at the meeting; after all, wasn't one of the intents of the program to help alleviate the thousands of people living with HIV/AIDS who are currently registered through CHIPS? We thought so. And, when the council voted on March 24 to fund the program, that vote was in part predicated on the fact that the CHIPS list would be used, according to the recommendations upon which the motion was based.

The housing task force now says that the "very low income" residents for whom the subsidies are intended would not be identifiable from the CHIPS list. But, according to the Department of Public Health AIDS Office, about 80 percent of those listed on CHIPS would qualify for the shallow rent subsidies. It seems that the list can identify those for whom the program is intended, so why the change now?

Frankly, the very thought of creating another list for HIV/AIDS housing is appalling; in spite of its shortcomings, CHIPS at least does provide a centralized database, and all HIV/AIDS housing programs in the city with the exception of emergency housing and medical housing programs draw clients from the list. The shallow rent subsidy program should draw its clients the same way as the other subsidy programs do, from the CHIPS list.

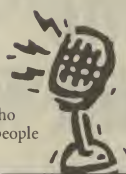
As planning councilmember Mary Jane Wood observed, what will the thousands of

people already on the CHIPS list do when they realize the shallow rent subsidies have gone to those who aren't on the list? Some of those people have been waiting for over a year. The latest data provided by AIDS Housing of Washington states that from January through June of this year, CHIPS made an average of 18 placements per month, more than half of which were for rental subsidies.

Given that the most recent figures from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation are that about 2,400 people on the CHIPS list are waiting for some type of subsidy, it would

take between 12 and 24 years to place all of them at the current rate and with the current subsidy programs available. In this context, even talking about creating another list for a subsidy program is unacceptable.

The full planning council should question the housing task force's decision soon, before the contract is signed and the subsidies distributed. The AIDS Office has told us that people on the CHIPS list will be helped by the shallow rent subsidy program in spite of the task force's decision, and that should also be clearly explained to the council. ▼



Editorial



Support public financing for the arts

by John R. Killackey

The biannual Congressional cultural charades have begun. In the recent House debates on the future of the National Endowment for the Arts, two California Congressmen, Representatives Duncan Hines and Sonny Bono, successfully advocated for the defunding of the agency. Duncan declared, "We are not going to give the money to aging hippies anymore to desecrate the crucifix or do strange things," and Cher's former partner added, "I don't see where the NEA is this amazing contributor to mankind and has brought all these artists forward."

Today many of our composers, visual artists, choreographers, filmmakers, playwrights, and performing artists are presenting content in very direct and sometimes confrontational ways. However, the intention of artists like Ron Athey, Karen Finley, Tim Miller, Bill T. Jones, Andres Serrano, and Cheryl Dunye, as well as the late Marlon Riggs and Robert Mapplethorpe, is not to shock, but to engage directly, to speak freely without need for metaphor. All of these artists and their work have been unfairly vilified in the discourse that surrounds the NEA debates.

While I recognize the risk of sounding too flippant, I do wonder if under today's repressive climate society would have condoned Mary Cassatt's paintings of nude children; Michelangelo's homosexuality; Pablo Picasso's use of urine to achieve the proper patina on his sculptures; and Jasper Johns's flag paintings. From all accounts, if Mozart had been judged by his personality, I doubt that we would have much of his extraordinary music in our repertoire today.

History has shown us that art cannot be fully judged in its day. An obvious example would be the near-riot that erupted at the premiere of Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring" in 1913. I'm not sure that many in that audience would have been willing to bet that fu-

ture generations would consider this work seminal. Echoing a similar sentiment, American composer Charles Ives was quoted as saying in 1920, "When a new or familiar work is accepted as beautiful on its first hearing, its fundamental quality is one that tends to put the mind to sleep."

Thirty-four years ago a critic in the *Minneapolis Tribune* wrote: "Three well-mannered anarchists will try to blow up a wall in Minneapolis tonight." The anarchists were choreographer Merce Cunningham, composer John Cage, and painter Robert Rauschenberg. The wall—which they also describe as 'an ivory tower' and 'a closed door'—was the high one between "art" and "life." These "anarchists" are now considered masters some three decades later.

Certainly not all emerging artists will turn into masters. However, I do believe that a few of today's iconoclasts will be tomorrow's classicists. I see my job as an arts administrator providing opportunities for myriad artists, knowing that some will contribute something of value to future generations, in the same way that corporations support research efforts to develop new products, new solutions to old problems.

Newt Gingrich in an essay in *Time* magazine asked, "Should the American people be forced to underwrite cultural dependents who add to our decay and undermine our values rather than enhance our lives?" The more authentic question is, "Should government, along with private and other public partners, support the work that may not speak to us all, which challenges the conventional ways of thinking about ourselves and our world?" You may not like it. I may not like it. But "like" is a vague and misguided criterion—fine for art over our couches, but not necessarily the stuff of history.

By merely preserving the past, we are not taking our roles as keepers of a cultural

legacy seriously, and are, in fact, acting irresponsibly. Contributions to the future must continue with as much diversity as can be fostered. A truly democratic society nurtures and encourages difference. Let's not perpetrate the fraudulent paradigm of the melting pot where everyone gets scalded. Let's work within a quilt-like design where difference is seen as an asset of a strong society in which minds shaped by different cultural histories, different spiritual legacies, and different autobiographies grapple together for the common good.

Our federal government has a long history in supporting the arts, dating as far back as 1814 when Congress bought Thomas Jefferson's 6,500-

book library for \$23,950. In our own century, the legacy of Franklin Roosevelt's cultural policies still resonates through the public arts works created under the auspices of the Work Progress Administration during the Depression. Since 1965, the NEA has been extremely successful in the democratization of American arts and culture that is now disseminated to rural and urban, rich and poor citizens throughout the nation and around the world.

As the future of the NEA is debated on the Senate floor in the coming weeks, we need to let Senators Boxer and Feinstein know that the amount of federal subsidies (38 cents per taxpaying citizen) the arts currently receive, as well as the number of visitors served, is indeed a frugal and wise use of our dollars. By investing a minute portion of our taxes with artists, we not only make a vital cultural present possible, but also ensure a rich and diverse cultural legacy for future generations to inherit. ▼

John R. Killackey is the Executive Director of Center for the Arts Yerba Buena Gardens.

LETTERS

Innuendo, out the other...

Your article entitled "God-like" doc sued by 'obsessed' former patient over alleged sex" upset me enough to write this letter.

I have volunteered at Davies Medical Center for 5 years and have several friends who are patients of Dr. Lee Roy Liskey. Although I do not personally know him, I am very aware of the good reputation he has as a competent and caring physician.

I feel that the tone of your article, which did include the public facts in the case, was very unfair to Dr. Liskey and Romo. There is no resolution to the suit, and we are to assume innocence until guilt is established. The headline of your article reads like the cheapest tabloid I have ever seen at a grocery store. The innuendo paints a very unflattering picture of the doctor and the patient. I am sure that they will both be negatively affected by this.

Since you felt it necessary to even print the article, I think that you should have printed just the facts without so much sensationalizing. This, to me, raises questions about the integrity of your reporting at the B.A.R. If Liskey is exonerated, some of the damage caused by such sensationalized, irresponsible publishing is irreversible. Romo, if exonerated, will also have a tarnished reputation with which to contend.

I hope, once a verdict is rendered, that you will give equal space to the verdict so our community will know how the courts responded to the suit.

Earlier in the year, you published a similarly tabloid-type article about an attorney Gerald Witherspoon, who was being sued. To date, I am unaware of the outcome of that case. Perhaps I missed it in your paper, or did you feel that you had completed your reporting and no further follow-up was necessary? I would sincerely like to know.

Larry Marr
San Francisco

[Editor's note: Actually, we did that similarly tabloid-type article about Witherspoon (and two follow-up articles) in 1995. As we reported then, "A Superior Court Commissioner denied a motion for an estimated \$70,000 in sanctions against San Francisco gay attorney Gerald Witherspoon. The motion sought reimbursement for attorney's fees and other costs that Witherspoon received as counsel for the 1991 trust of Philip Causey, a man who died of AIDS in 1991...." We will continue our tradition of following up stories in this case as well, and will report the findings, whatever they are.]

Knowledge, professionalism, compassion

Re your 7/17/97 article, "God-like" doc sued by 'obsessed' former patient over alleged sex":

For several years I have enjoyed seeing Lee Liskey as my primary care physician. At no time have I ever witnessed or heard tell of any situation in which Lee did not represent the highest standard of knowledge, professionalism, and compassion in his work.

Kelley G. Coulter
San Francisco

Wreaking recklessness

After reading the "sensationalized" article by Assistant Editor Dennis Conkin regarding a pending lawsuit against Dr. Lee Liskey for allegedly [sic] sexual misconduct, etc. in your July 17th issue, I am angered that the approach toward reporting this story wreaked [sic] of tabloid journalism.

In my opinion the article is accusational and slanted at best, not only through the eyes of Charles Romo, Jr., who filed a suit but also through the eyes of B.A.R.'s Mr. Conkin, who devoted three-quarters of a page to this unnecessary expose.

When one looks at Romo's background as a convicted felon, the subject of an anti-harassment order from a former roommate, a man who broke into Dr. Liskey's home four times, made threatening phone calls and stalked his assistant, etc., prompting two restraining orders, it is a small wonder that Romo has an unrealistic sense of "power imbalance" with his former doctor, who he viewed as a "God-like figure."

I rather doubt that any of Dr. Liskey's patients would actually believe the accusations made by Romo. I know I certainly don't, despite the article.

What I do know is that Dr. Liskey has been my healthcare partner (no "power imbalance" here) for 3 years and has turned my failing health status completely around. He is a consummate professional, a caring individual who is always thinking of his patients before himself, and a total gentleman.

No doubt this reckless suit threatens the livelihood, reputation, and medical contributions of an outstanding doctor, but it also threatens the welfare of his patients.

It would behoove the B.A.R. and the community to praise and support such dedicated doctors rather than jeopardize them with such reckless reporting.

Jody Berke
San Francisco

Not 'God-like,' just desirable

For four years it has been my pleasure to know and observe Dr. Lee Liskey. If ever there were a less "God-like" physician, it would be Lee. I would be surprised if there was a kinder, more compassionate, and above all, ethical physician working in San Francisco. He is beloved in the gay community for his valiant and unselfish fight against the ravages of AIDS. It is a calling he takes to his heart. He has known the depressions and he has suffered with us all. Not one person who knows Lee's work and read the B.A.R. article of last week believed an iota of the outrageous allegations brought by the spurned Charles Romo, out to try to do damage to Lee Liskey's reputation.

Kindness is something that Lee extends to all. No other relationship ever existed between Lee and Charles beyond physician and patient. Liskey invited Romo to his home for Thanksgiving 1995 because the man had nowhere to go. Like my Mama says, "No good deed goes unpunished." It was then that Romo began his campaign to win the hand of Dr. Liskey. For the longest time, Lee side-stepped Romo's flirtations until, finally, Lee had no choice, but to tell Romo that even their physician-patient relationship had become uncomfortable and that Romo would have to choose another clinician. Spurned, Romo then began the stalking and harassment. Lee had no legal recourse but to obtain not one but two restraining orders on Mr. Romo. Mr. Romo, as you reported, is no stranger to restraining orders.

Let's use logic for a moment: Who would believe an HIV-physician would pursue sex with a severely ill and extremely troubled patient? Lee Liskey is an attractive, young, secure, professional physician. Looking at these two people, who would try to pursue whom?

If Mr. Romo were a welcome, sought-after guest in Liskey's home, why then did Romo break into Liskey's house repeatedly to be near Lee's things?

Make your own conclusions. Interesting how the truth always make more sense.

Scott Wesley Robertson
East Bay

[Who-ooo-eee, does anybody else smell the acrid aroma of PWaphobia in the air?]

Solid integrity

I have had the privilege of working as a volunteer at Davies Medical Center spending much time with patients of Dr. Liskey's. Over the years, I have witnessed his kindness and his compassion. He always seems to make time in his very busy days to explain what is going on and give comfort and reassurance.

When I needed to find a new personal physician there was no question that I would choose Dr. Liskey. I have found him to be incredibly professional, kind, and caring. Even the simplest of questions and most routine medical situations are met with the same level of concern as is given to more serious situations.

In my opinion, he embodies all of the personal traits that are important for a physician. He is kind, caring, ethical, and professional. His integrity as a physician and as a human being is solid.

Allan Berenstern
San Francisco

One hell of a doctor

I found your article about the pending lawsuit against Dr. Lee Liskey to be very upsetting, and considering the source of the allegations, totally unbelievable. I have been a patient of Dr. Liskey for 3 years, since moving to the Bay Area. Needless to say, the advice I received from a friend referring me to Dr. Liskey is a favor I may never be able to repay.

Lee Liskey is one of the most decent, honest, caring, genuine, and professional people I have ever had the good fortune of knowing, and the fact that he is my physician gives me a sense of security one rarely finds in a doctor these days. There are so many things that make him special, but the first that comes to mind is that he listens to his patients, and tells them what they need to know. There is a genuine warmth that comes from the heart, and no question that he really cares. Quite simply put: He's one hell of a doctor.

I feel a sense of pity mixed with anger toward the deeply troubled young man who is making these ridiculous allegations. I hope I can find it in my heart to forgive him, and I sincerely hope he is able to get the help he obviously needs.

It is also my hope that B.A.R. will devote as much print to Dr. Liskey's vindication when this ugly and unfortunate matter is brought to a close. No matter what the outcome, this man has been unfairly damaged. There are few people I know, in any profession, who possess his integrity and ethical backbone.

Those of us, and there are many, want Dr. Liskey to know we are behind him 100%.

Ryan D. Chepy
San Francisco

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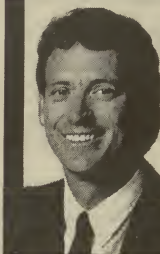


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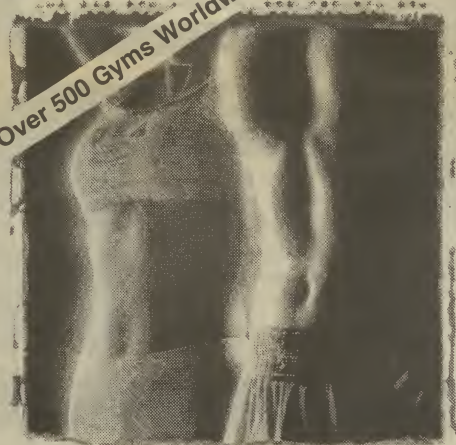
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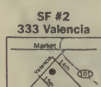
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MACK attack?

Regarding Tom Pinsky's letter, in which he alleges having observed blatantly unsafe sexual activity going on at the South of Market sex club MACK the previous weekend.

I am appalled and quite disturbed that the B.A.R. or any other gay publication would publish a letter with such serious allegations without even attempting, so far as I know, to contact me or anyone else at MACK or otherwise investigating the allegations. Even the most cursory check of MACK's history would have revealed that not only has the club been a member in good standing of the Coalition for Healthy Sex for many years, MACK has received awards and commendations from the Coalition for our commitment to promoting safe, healthy sex and for the quality of our facility.

On May 28, Mitchell Katz, MD, Director, Community Health and Safety and Director of the San Francisco AIDS Office for the City and County of San Francisco, stated in a letter to MACK the following:

"Overall, the operation of your club contributes to an environment which encourages safe sex. The following factors were noted (in our recent inspection):

Clear signs that describe prohibited activities throughout the facility.

Sign-in procedures that require patrons to agree to rules of the club.

Adequate supply of condoms accessible to patrons. Staff has attended sex club staff training offered by the Coalition for Healthy Sex.

Sex club staff has monthly meetings to trouble-shoot monitoring and other staff problems. All areas of facility are monitorable.

Sex club has several posters and large amounts of other educational materials available to patrons.

We encourage you to continue to operate in the manner in which you currently do so that your club will meet the Minimum Standards."

Mr. Pinsky's allegations, I assure you, are utterly untrue, either fabricated or hallucinated or something, but certainly not an apt description of any activity that goes on at MACK.

Daralt

Owner, MACK of San Francisco

[People also buy extremely safe Volvos to drive through red lights; people also pile onto water slides in unsafe numbers until catastrophes occur. It just goes to show that education is a better weapon against HIV transmission than is monitoring.]

Sheen and herd at the Lone Star

During our year as Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco of the Imperial Court, we have enjoyed many wonderful experiences, but few parallel Thursday, July 3 at the Lone Star. We held a fundraiser for the GodFather Service Fund, one of our favorite charities, and during the course of a raffle and show raised over \$800. Without the enthusiastic support of Kevin Owens of the Lone Star and a wonderful group of patrons, none of this would have been possible! We hear so much about the infighting between factions in our community, but this was a heart-warming example of co-operation and mutual respect between two-stepping boots and prancing high heels, between denim and sequins, between ten-gallon hats and ten-pound wigs!

Thank you to all who made this night magical!

Fred Lewis

Mr. Gay San Francisco

Lycra Sheen

Miss Gay San Francisco

Christian brothers boos

It seems as though our "Christian" brothers are in need of a little dressing down. The father and daughter in Alameda who are asking for the job of a teacher for bringing up Ellen are exhibiting the perfect example of the supreme arrogance of one of the world's great religions. I use "great" to illustrate size only.

Isn't it fascinating that these people actually still believe that there can be only one God - theirs cannot explain why, and have the unmitigated gall to demand that entire nations of free-thinking human beings bow to their way or to move and that no matter what we say, we are wrong!

I am stunned by the fact that, first, we allow ourselves to be bullied by people who are so afraid of the truth about people and therefore themselves that we actually have given over our government to them (think about it); and second, we continue to allow the planet to be enslaved by the beliefs that largely stem from ancient Judaic text to keep us overpopulated and hungry for both food and freedom of thought and self-expression!

Shame on us all for giving our power away to the pitiful likes of Jesse Helms, the POPE!, and trailer trash from the (mostly) southern regions of this country.

Jesus certainly wasted a perfectly good life on us!

Michael Puchalski

San Francisco

Pat the miracle worker?

Regarding Ron Henderson's applause of SFAF [Mailstrom, June 26]: I am a long-term survivor, too, and Pat Christen has had nothing to do with my survival. And SFAF's being "one of the best AIDS organizations in the country" is debatable. If anything, the frustration I experienced with SFAF contributed to my decreased CD4 count and burgeoning viral load.

I worked in client services for a clinic in the Mission, where many of the clients are monolingual Spanish-speaking people. Our funders required us to partner with other organizations to avoid duplication of services. I and my clients depended on SFAF for access to many services we could not provide. Day after day my phone calls to SFAF social workers went unanswered. Day after day the SFAF staff was away to never-ending meetings, conferences, workshops and seminars. Day after day our clients waited. Day after day they got discouraged. Day after day they died. SFAF controls distribution of all money from the AIDS Walk to other organizations. With this kind of power and her kind of salary - almost twice as much as the clinic AIDS doc and nurse combined - Pat had better be more than just visionary. She should work miracles.

As the Executive Director of a grassroots HIV/AIDS services organization "of, by and for people with HIV/AIDS," my salary was \$24,000. The other two staff got less. We worked 12 to 15 hours a day. The volunteers, the real visionaries, did much more and got nothing but the reward of having been part of a real solution. We had to fight for every dollar we got, because most of the money was going to organizations advocating primary prevention, i.e., safe/no sex messages, like SFAF. We were the first in LA to advocate for testing and treatment issues and to get free aerosolized pentamidine for our members. We organized the first monthly medical updates featuring front-line AIDS docs and other experts, providing the latest treatment information available. Our newsletter was treatment-focused. We had a drug network that helped people get access to treatments that showed promise. We marched, picketed, acted up, lobbied, got arrested, got sick, and died. Some of us, though not many, have survived to see this day and a hope to see tomorrow.

Pat Christen, AIDS Visionary? I don't think so.

Dan Solliday

San Francisco

Upbeat, not beaten

While we appreciate Victoria Brownworth's passionate support of feminist publishers and booksellers ("Lesbian Books: Publish or Perish?" July 3), we are concerned that readers will get the impression that Cleis Press is in trouble. We are not.

Naturally, we suffer the current economic squeeze as much as anyone in the book industry. But in a year when many in the book industry project gloomy forecasts, the mood at Cleis is upbeat. In June, we were named Outstanding Independent Press of 1997 by the Firecracker Alternative Book Awards in a ceremony held at Book Expo America. The Firecracker award came a day after Cleis Press swept the Lambda Literary Awards, winning Best Lesbian Fiction for *Memory Mambo* by Achy Obejas and both Best Transgender and Best Small Press title for *Body Alchemy: Transsexual Portraits* by Loren Cameron. Cleis Press will publish 13 titles in 1997 and 12 in 1998.

As Victoria noted in her article, we closed our Pittsburgh office - but we did so to move me to San Francisco. We opened our snazzy new San Francisco office in May, enabling Frederique Delacoste and I to work side by side for the first time since the early 1980s. I'm thrilled to live and work in San Francisco, a dream I've pursued for the past several years.

The new Cleis Press office, nestled between the Haight and the Castro, will be the site of book launchings and author events. The Press plans a grand opening reception for the local book trade and media for late summer. To staff the new office, Cleis hired Don Weise, formerly marketing associate with Publishers Group West. PGW represents Cleis to the book trade.

Our best wishes to Victoria Brownworth and to all our colleagues in queer bookselling and book publishing: may we honor each other's strengths as well as our struggles.

Felice Newman

Publisher, Cleis Press

San Francisco

At wit's end

Re: letter from Greg Morgan, July 10:

Silence Strange de Jim? Mr. Morgan, are you witless? We need more wit, not less!

James Kennedy

San Francisco

Send letters to 395 Ninth Street, SF 94103. Please type them or, if hand written, make them legible. We do not withhold names except in cases of compelling need for reasons of personal safety.

POLITICS

Dollars and no sense

by Wayne Friday

Even though the primary campaign for statewide offices is still 10 months away and the races for California governor and U.S. senator aren't until November 1998, all those concerned are "dialing for dollars" at every opportunity. Campaign financial reports filed last week for the senate and gubernatorial contests show that being an incumbent and/or having great personal wealth are — surprise — likely to be advantages next year.

U.S. Senator **Barbara Boxer**, with no serious opponent in next June's Democratic primary, reported more than \$2 million already sitting in her campaign account — more than any of her potential GOP opponents. Attorney General **Dan Lungren**, also with no serious opponent for the Republican nomination for governor, reports he has close to \$3 million stashed away. Spokespersons for both Boxer and Lungren have said their campaigns expect to raise and spend at least \$20 million each before next November's general election.

In the Democratic race for governor, Lt. Governor **Gray Davis**, long an announced candidate, reports \$3.3 million in the bank, while Los Angeles businessman **Alfred Checchi**, a multimillionaire, reports to having a comfortable \$2.4 million in his campaign coffers. However, Checchi, unlike Davis, is wealthy to the tune of roughly \$550 million, and his campaign balance sheet reflects money that he has put into the campaign solely on his own.

Two other potential Democratic gubernatorial candidates, U.S. Senator **Dianne Feinstein** and former Rep. **Leon Panetta**, had no financial activity to report for the period in question, the first half of 1997. While Mr. Panetta has not commented on possible campaign costs for a race for Sacramento, DIFI has said that if he enters the contest, she expects that it would take around \$20 million to run a successful effort.

Although Senator Boxer can look forward to an easy nomination bid next June, the battle for the Republican nod to oppose her is hotly contested. Among those GOP hopefuls already announced, only San Diego car alarm magnate **Darrell Issa**, reportedly with a personal fortune of \$250 million, had more than \$1 million in his campaign fund (actually \$1.8 million), all of which he personally donated. Republican state Treasurer **Matt Fong**, thought to be the current front-runner, reported just \$548,261 in his campaign account. San Diego Mayor **Susan Golding**, a third GOP senate hopeful, reported a balance of \$231,339.

While the figures in both the gubernatorial and senate races offer only a modest hint of what each of the candidates can raise by next June, Boxer's incumbency, coupled with the fact she faces no serious primary opposition, clearly indicates that money should not really be a problem for her. The deep pockets of unknown candidates like Issa and Checchi (shades of **Michael Huffington**?) indicate that the combined tab for next year's election of a California governor and U.S. senator could



Boxer is sitting pretty with \$2 million in her kitty.

easily surpass the \$230 million mark.

Politics and purse strings

Some Republican leaders were grumbling aloud this week that President **Clinton** and Vice President **Gore** were the big winners in the recently passed "balanced" budget agreement. Clinton, who most feel outsmarted the GOP on many budget points, is taking the lion's share of the credit for the historic agreement, and analysts in both

parties agree that anything that benefits Clinton also helps Gore, the early Democratic front-runner for the White House in 2000.

Ironically, the Republicans could have been bigger winners in the public's eye if they had spent more time extolling their virtues instead of fighting one another. Unfortunately for them, to the extent that the budget deal helps extend the country's solid economic recovery, Gore's chances look better than ever to take over his boss's job.

Hard times? The national Republican Party raised a pitiful — for them — \$24.6 million the first six months of this year, while the Democratic Party raked in \$19 million, but is still \$13.4 million in debt. (Better rent out that Lincoln Bedroom on an hourly basis, Bill.)

Meanwhile, in Sacramento last week, the chairs of the state's Republican and Democratic parties sat side by side as they went to court to determine if they will be forced to abide by the "open primary" system that voters demanded last year when they passed Prop. 198. If Prop. 198 remains in place for next year's election, California voters will receive a primary ballot that lists the names of all the candidates from every party who are running for a particular office. The voter will then be allowed to select any candidate, regardless of the voter's party registration or the candidate's. Both parties insisted in court that the decision of selecting a candidate to represent the party in a general election should be limited to that party's registered members. A decision by the court is not expected for at least three months.

At least a few snickers were heard among the City Hall crowd last week when Registrar of Voters **Germaine Wong**, announcing her retirement, insisted she wasn't being forced out. "In fact, the op-

posite is true," she said. "They've been begging me to stay." No word yet on exactly who the mysterious "they" are.

Supporters and friends of state Senator **Quentin Kopp** (yes, he has friends) are having a 69th birthday celebration for the veteran politico to benefit The Committee for Citizen Action on Wednesday, August 13, 5-7 p.m., at the Dalla Torre Ristorante on Montgomery Street (\$100; 777-2340 for info).

Some D.C. wags are wondering just what President Bill Clinton is really up to. First, he nominates a prominent GOP governor, **William Weld** of Massachusetts, as the next ambassador to Mexico, then this week he nominates **Michael Powell**, the Republican son of possible GOP presidential candidate **Colin Powell**, to the powerful Federal Communications Commission. A few Demos feel the Prez may be carrying this bipartisanship thing a bit too far.


Wonder if Mayor **Willie Brown** knows that LA Mayor **Richard Riordan** has a giant photo of himself on a bike at the start of a race with a couple of hundred other pedalers behind him hanging in the reception area of his City Hall office? Everyone has his/her opinion of our own Critical Mass, but the fact remains that bicycle riders are fast becoming a political force to be reckoned with in a number of areas around this country. (And no, Commissioner Bretz, closing Market Street to auto traffic from Van Ness to the Embarcadero is not the answer.)

The Pentagon is reviewing how its "don't ask, don't tell" policy has been applied amid complaints that gays continue to be targeted for punishment and dismissal — at record rates. The Pentagon reportedly began the review in May because military discharges for homosexuals reached a five-year high of 850 in 1996. The military is looking into how the policy was applied in those cases. The policy supposedly permits gays to stay in the military as long as they do not disclose their sexual orientation or engage in homosexuality activity. Let's face it, Mr. President, this lousy, horribly discriminatory idea isn't working and needs to stop now.

My Quote of the Week is from Mayor Brown, while debating anti-gay bigots, including the Traditional Values Coalition's **Lou Sheldon**, on the issue of same-sex marriage before the American Bar Association in SF last week: "This is an issue of human rights; it is an issue of civil rights, and it is an issue of equal rights." ▼



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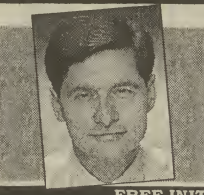
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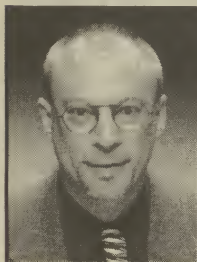


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Co-ed...or co-opted?

by Beth Elliott

Paging Jim Provenzano Dept.: One of my faithful readers, a friend often described as "everybody's favorite nice Jewish cowgirl from Connecticut," had an interesting question for me the other day. She had read about a young athlete named Bill May, who so totally rules at synchronized swimming that he made the U.S. National Team but had to let go of his spot because the Olympics, the World Cup and the NCAA don't allow men (technically, anyone who can't pass the chromatin tests for double X's) to compete in this sport at meets they sanction.

But all is not lost: May is off to Switzerland to compete at the prestigious Swiss Open in both the "solo" and "duet" categories. So my friend had the obvious question: solo synchronized swimming — isn't that a contradiction in terms? After all, we're talking "synchronized," which implies more than one in unison or something?

Anyway, this friend watches very little television, preferring to get up obscenely early for rigorous gym workouts. Only recently did she sit down and watch the

brought gay men and lesbians together as equals in one community. For some of us lesbians, however, the losses only picked at an existing wound. We lost friends without closure over the way we had not only been left to fend for ourselves but were actively opposed, in one of the fights of our political life, by our "brothers" around whom we now rallied. Not only that, their need was exploited to attack women who dared find more meaning in female bonding, and value it more highly, than being a kind of gay ladies' auxiliary to the men's community and culture.

Last week I wrote of the Equal Rights Amendment getting reintroduced in Congress. Before its original introduction, lesbians like Jeanne Cordova, Rev. Frieda Smith and myself had eagerly worked with gay men like the late Jim Foster on sodomy law repeal. I was an Alice B. Toklas Club co-founder with Jim Foster and one of its first delegates to the CDC state convention. Nonetheless, even though the ERA was about the rights of half the community,

tion period, *Tales of the City* was apotheosizing gay male-straight female friendships even as both sides of that particular equation looked down their noses on lesbians with nervous disdain at our disinterest in existing to fawn over males and make them feel special.

The ERA bit the dust in mid-1982, and within two years, a campaign was on to make sure lesbians didn't return the favor and sit on the sidelines. Suddenly, the much maligned phrase "gay and lesbian" was de rigueur, especially when it could camouflage AIDS' disproportionate impact on gay men. But did negative stereotyping of lesbians by gay men and fag hags stop? No way. It actually intensified, and was used against lesbians still interested in putting women first in our lives.

This now made you worse than a "man-hater"; it made you someone who wanted men to die.

Name an ugly stereotype used by nervous straight men to explain away our preference for women, and you could find it used in the gay media to bring us into line. "They're just uptight and need a real man to show them what sex is about." Now gay men would teach us how to have "real" sex while we clued them in about forming relationships. "Prefer women? Naaah, she's just so horny she'll schtup anything."

The *Sentinel* ran — and hyped to the skies — a special insert "honoring" female sexuality. The main article was about women finding sexual freedom through stripping — for straight men. Skeptics were called victims of their own "middle-class hang-ups."

This paper ran an interview with a woman claiming that by refusing to embrace "cosexual" culture, lesbians were losing our "femininity" and becoming "just like men" (even we femmes?). An article about a gay man and lesbian who had married and were raising two children together took a gratuitous swipe at lesbian mothers, saying their children needed not just male role models but a man living in the house for emotional and psychological wholeness.

So now the ERA is back. Will gay men's take on it be different this time? I don't know... a writer for *OutNOW!* recently blasted the inclusion of "bi" and "trans" in lesbian/gay titles because "they really aren't the same as and don't belong with gay and AIDS issues." Gay and AIDS, but not bi or trans? That tells me that what's important to "our" community is still what's important to males. ▼

Did negative stereotyping of lesbians stop? No way.

TV miniseries version of *Tales of the City*. I was curious about her reaction, since we'd first met (as she pointed out) when we were among the many who either subscribed to the *Chronicle* or ran down to pick up the early bird edition the night before because we couldn't wait to read the latest installment of the adventures of people like us.

After her expected remarks about those wacky yet lovable late 1970s in San Francisco, she commented, "You know, I found myself wishing I had a friend like Mouse. Then I remembered I did — I had a number of them. But they all died."

It was the illness and dying of far too many friends of far too many people that supposedly

and might potentially be used for prying loose more rights for all in same-gender contexts, gay men's attitudes toward this struggle ranged from apathy at best to antagonism at worst.

Many gay men's attitudes toward lesbians were remarkably similar to straight men's: as women, we should know our place; what was wrong with these feminists who didn't want to look and act like ladies; they're ugly and can't get dates, so they're trying to tell men what to do. This was not a huge surprise; in the early '70s, Del Martin herself ripped the male side of the gay rights movement for expecting women to make coffee and type envelopes while the boys set policy. But during the ERA's ratifica-

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HISTORY LESSON

Womyn making music

by David Bianco

August 1976 (21 years ago this month): Two thousand women gather at the first Michigan Womyn's Music Festival.

What is the history of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival?

The Michigan Womyn's Music Festival has become a part of the calendar's rhythm for thousands of lesbians and other women who gather each August at a secluded campsite outside Grand Rapids. The festival has achieved mythic status in lesbian communities both for its empowering and liberating affect on its participants - and for the controversies that have arisen year after year over its rules and boundaries.

In recent years, "Michigan" (as many of its attendees lovingly refer to it) has drawn between 6-8,000 women to a 650-acre forest campground in which the action on the various sound stages - by many of the biggest names in women's music - is just one of a whirlwind of activities. Dozens of workshops - from drumming to signing to spirituality - coincide with a crafts bazaar and an international film festival. The festival models itself as a prototype of a nurturing community - how the world would be if women got to design it. As such, a complex geography of care has developed. "The Womb" attends to festival-goers' physical needs (sunburns, especially), while "The Oasis" attend to their emotional needs. There is a camp for girls on-site, and sons of participants who are under 10 can attend Brother Sun Boys' Camp. More than a dozen sign language interpreters provide a connection to the music and workshops for hearing-impaired women, and three vegetarian meals are provided daily.

And even in 1997, no woman pays more than \$300 to stay for up to six days.

From its beginnings on a 20-acre site rented for \$400 in 1976, Michigan has been a communitarian venture. All participants sign up for two work shifts, from helping with childcare to maintenance to cooking.

The mid-seventies, when Michigan was founded, was a period of explosive growth in women's music. The women who started the festival had attended other similar events in 1975 and wanted to start their own in Michigan. They chose the spelling "womyn" to make it clear that their venture would rely not at all on men - and that approach has been adhered to strictly for two decades. Even listening to "male music" on radios or tape decks is forbidden on the festival grounds.

In its second year, the festival moved to a larger, rented site in Oceana County, Michigan, where the women braved a near tornado. In the early years, threatened invasions by hostile local men were a recurrent problem, although no actual violence occurred. Several of the organizers felt a permanent, owned site was essential, and in 1982 the current parcel was purchased. Because the current site is surrounded by a quarter million acres of the Manistee National Forest, many festival-goers attest they have never felt safer or freer. Indeed, clothing is optional throughout the festival.

The first of the many Michigan controversies centered over whether participants could bring

their sons. Despite official rules against it, in the first years, some women brought boys as old as fourteen, some of whom felt so disoriented by the female-privilege society that they picked on some of the younger girls. The current strict policy of no boys over three on the main festival grounds, and no boys over ten at the festival at all, developed as a compromise, although it left some mothers unhappy.

Another point of controversy has been sado-masochism. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, a subset of the lesbian community began openly embracing leather-dyke identities, to the horror of women who identified violence with maleness. For the 1980 Festival, public sex and open displays of sado-masochism were banned, creating a furor among women who felt nobody's sexuality should be restricted. Eventually, a compromise was reached where a separate "Twilight Zone" was set up for the leather set.

The most recent - and perhaps the most wrenching - major debate has been over the participation of post-operative male-to-female

transsexuals at the event. One such transsexual, Nancy Burkholder, participated clandestinely at the 1990 festival. But the next year, when she began to share her history with other participants, security guards escorted her from the premises - despite her offer to "drop her drawers."

By 1993, the "womyn-born-womyn-only" policy was a source of significant controversy. A "Camp Trans" was set up outside the gates of the festival to protest the exclusion of "men-born womyn," and several opponents of the policy wore "Friend of Nancy" buttons. But the Festival organizers, and many participants, insist that by excluding anyone born as a male they are creating a uniquely safe and affirming space for the thousands of women who participate. Or, as one woman put it, "it's the dick in their heads I don't want here."

Although the controversies have provided for hours of debate for women both during Michigan and the rest of the year, many have grown tired of each new issue and simply want to enjoy the festival for its scenery, its sense of community, and its music. ▼



Past Out

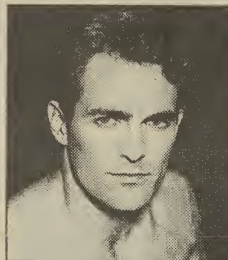
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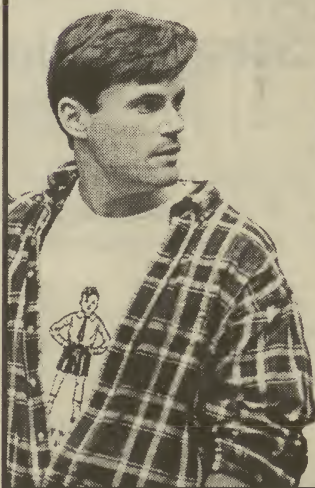
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Schindler movie on Lifetime next Mondayby Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource
center manager

Next Monday, August 11, Lifetime Television will premiere *Any Mother's Son: The Dorothy Hajdys Story*, a touching and thought-provoking made-for-TV movie. In 1992 Hajdys' son, Allen Schindler, was brutally beaten to death in Japan by two fellow Navy shipmates because he was gay. *Any Mother's Son* depicts the struggle of Hajdys to accept that her beloved son was gay. She then discovers that the Navy was covering up important details about the case against the two accused of killing her son in order to avoid addressing the high numbers of anti-gay attacks within the armed forces.

Any Mother's Son will also be shown on August 14, 17, 23 and 31. Please watch, and then thank Lifetime for bringing this powerful story to the small screen.

Contact: Lisa Nee, Program Director, Lifetime, 309 W. 49th St., New York, NY 10019, fax: 212.957.4448, e-mail: comments@www.lifetime.com, feedback form on WWW: <http://www.lifetime.com/home/mail/index.html>.

Cinemax explores the life of Monette

Next Thursday, August 14, Cinemax's Reel Life Documentary Series will premiere *Paul Monette: The Brink Of Summer's End*, the insightful and touching documentary about the author's life. With commentary by friends like

Judith Light and Larry Kramer, interviews with the late Monette and narration by Linda Hunt, the Audience Award winner at Sundance (produced by a GLAAD board member) is a fitting tribute to the award-winning author. In 1992, Monette won the National Book Award for nonfiction for his autobiography *Becoming A Man: Half A Life Story*. The real strength of the film lies in Monette himself: his amazing zest for life, love, and his adamant will to live, work and write about AIDS.

Please watch *Paul Monette: The Brink Of Summer's End*, and thank Cinemax for highlighting such a talented and inspirational gay, HIV-positive man's life.

Contact: Cinemax, 1100 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-6737, fax: 212.512.1000, feedback forum: <http://www.hbo.com/feedback.html>.

Trail less traveled

The August 11 issue of *People* magazine has a story written by the sister of Jeffrey Trail, the alleged first victim of Andrew Cunanan, that captures the loss felt by Trail's family as well as shedding light on some of the issues faced by Trail's parents upon learning he was gay. Candace Parrot reflects on her first meeting with Andrew Cunanan, whom she knew as Andrew DaSilva, and recounts learning from her mother about her brother's death. She reveals that her parents did not know her brother was gay until he

was murdered. Parrot shares her feelings about Trail, as well as his new relationship with a man named Jon Hackett, with whom he spent his last weekend alive. She remembers her brother as a fine and honorable man who served in the Navy and served as an example to family and friends.

Finally, Parrot speaks of her family's loss, and what they think of Trail would want them to do.

Please let *People* know that its touching and personal portrait of Trail was exceptionally important in showing the basic humanity of a gay man who was unfairly

blamed by some for bringing this on himself because of his sexual orientation. Thank them for this warm and emotional look at Jeffrey Trail's life and those he left behind.

Contact: Landon Y. Jones, Managing Editor, *People*, Time-Life Bldg, Rockefeller Ctr., New York, NY 10020, fax: 212.522.0331, e-mail: editor@people.com ▼

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CHIPS list may not be used for shallow rent subsidies

by Cynthia Laird

People living with HIV/AIDS who will receive new shallow rent subsidies through Ryan White CARE funding will not be drawn from the CHIPS housing wait list, it was announced at the Monday, August 4 meeting of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council. The news was questioned by at least one member of the council, who wondered whether the city might be opening itself up to possible legal action by the thousands of people who have signed up for CHIPS (Centralized Housing Information and Placement Service), some of whom have been waiting years for a rental subsidy. When the planning council

originally approved funding for the shallow rent subsidy program on March 24, the recommendations voted on by the council stated people would be drawn from the CHIPS list. Between 100-150 people are expected to be served. Now, however, that has changed, Tom Calvanese told the council Monday.

"The extremely low income people wouldn't be targeted through CHIPS," Calvanese said. "It will be on a first-come, first-serve basis."

He added that outreach will be done to identify eligible people.

The shallow rent subsidies approved by the council would be able to be used at residential hotels, unlike some rental subsidies. Under the program, recipients of the subsidies would have a por-

tion of their rent paid. To be eligible, people must have disabling HIV or AIDS and meet income requirements.

The latest change, not drawing people from the CHIPS list, was questioned by councilmember Mary Jane Wood, who asked whether the housing task force had thought of the potential legal consequences. She also asked whether the task force would, in effect, be creating yet a second list.

"Not necessarily," Calvanese replied, explaining that linkages with other agencies would be done in addition to outreach in order to identify eligible people.

Wood was not satisfied. "I could see someone who's been on the CHIPS list for two years subsequently suing the city [and] suing the planning council," she said.

Other councilmembers pointed out that the CHIPS list is not used for emergency housing or medical housing, and that the shallow rent subsidies are being used for emergency housing.

"It depends how you define 'emergency,'" Wood responded.

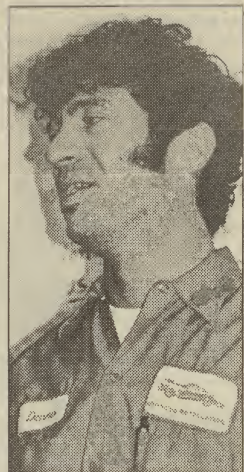
Norm Nickens, assistant director of the AIDS Office, told the B.A.R. that ultimately, many of the people who receive the shallow rent subsidies will be on the CHIPS list, although it's not clear how that will be accomplished. Nickens said the AIDS Office is in the midst of contract negotiations with contractors for the program, which was supposed to start last month.

"The shallow rent subsidies will definitely help people on the CHIPS list," Nickens said.

He added that the very nature of shallow rent subsidies is not to create new housing, but to prevent people in existing housing from becoming homeless. "It is premised on you being in housing."

Housing data

In other matters at Monday's meeting, the council got data on AIDS housing in the city. The group AIDS Housing of Washington, based in Seattle, has undertaken the task of gathering data on the various HIV/AIDS housing programs in the city and released its preliminary report to the planning council. The final re-



Tom Calvanese

port is expected by the end of the year and is being done as part of the effort to update the city's HIV/AIDS housing plan.

Significantly, the report has initial data about who has been housed through the CHIPS list since it started in January 1995. Of the 5,076 clients who have registered and are in the CHIPS database, about 1,200 have been placed. Of those, 1,000 people have been placed in permanent housing.

During the first half of this year, CHIPS made an average of 94 referrals and 18 placements per month. More than half the placements were through rental subsidies.

While 64 percent of all clients in the CHIPS system enrolled in CHIPS while they were living in some type of permanent housing situation, this group comprises 73 percent of those placed through the CHIPS system, according to the report. ▼

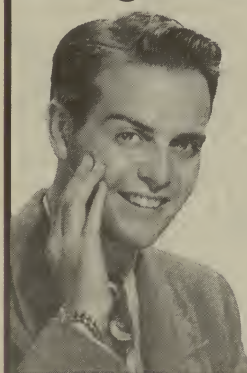
The planning council's next meeting is Monday, August 11 beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the sixth floor conference room at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 10 United Nations Plaza, at Market and Seventh streets.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Sacramento report AIDS funding at risk

by Marghe Covino

nsiders at the State Capitol are worried that AIDS and other healthcare funding will be on the chopping block during the ongoing budget talks next week. Legislators are playing with already meager welfare funds in their budget battles with Governor Pete Wilson this week, and insiders fear that next week it will be the state's healthcare budget at stake.

Wilson wants a state income tax cut and insists on funding a lump sum \$1.3 billion payback to the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) from the general fund. He has rejected a plan to pay back the money to PERS over a period of several years because

PERS officials want to tie the payback to increased benefits to state employees. Because Wilson won't make concessions to PERS administrators, \$12.9 million for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP); \$1.6 million for HIV/AIDS prevention activities; \$1.6 million for anonymous HIV testing and counseling; and \$3.8 million for viral load testing - all already agreed upon by the state assembly and senate - could be on the chopping block in the next three to seven days.

ADAP funds specifically assist those persons with AIDS who are working and living with AIDS but are unable to fund their life-saving medications. It costs approximately \$12,000 a year to keep a person on medication as they continue to be functioning, contributing members of the community. If their medications are taken away, they can slip into terminal phase, and the cost is generally \$150,000 to end-stage. In-

siders say it would be false economy to tinker with such programs, which are demonstrably effective and successful.

Laurie McBride, executive director of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE), is trying to formulate strategies in the event either the governor or the legislators don't blink during this battle of wills. She is urging a flood of mail to the governor telling him although he may be acting out of frustration with the budget negotiations, it is our lives that are at stake. "Tell Governor Wilson that jeopardizing people's lives, jeopardizing their healthcare is not the way to build a budget solution in California. Not just AIDS funding, but all healthcare funding is at stake," McBride said. ▼

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Sen. Lee asks state AIDS Office for plan

by Cynthia Laird

The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) announced July 31 that a letter circulated by state Senator Barbara Lee (D-Oakland), was sent to the State Office of AIDS to challenge their plan for addressing the needs of communities most affected by the epidemic. The letter, signed by 30 legislators from the assembly and senate, calls for Wayne Saucedo, director of the State Office of AIDS, to "have a detailed demographic assessment of the AIDS epidemic within California and have a detailed plan to combat the epidemic within those communities most at risk."

The legislative effort comes as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released data indicating that a major disparity in the rate of AIDS deaths between people of color and other populations.

"The State Office of AIDS must understand the importance of having detailed plans to combat the AIDS epidemic within those communities that have traditionally had limited access to healthcare information and treatment," Lee said.

Added Luis Orozco, NTFAP public policy director, "The NTFAP made an effort to work with Wayne Saucedo of the State Office of AIDS in order to better direct state tax dollars for those with the greatest need; however, we have yet to receive any response."

Orozco added that the NTFAP was "extremely pleased to see a strong coalition of members from the legislative black and Latino caucuses," as well as many legislative leaders sign Lee's letter. Key members of committees with jurisdiction over state health issues also signed the letter.

"It is now more important than ever for us to target scarce AIDS resources effectively because larger segments of our communities continue to have no access to information on prevention and life-saving treatments," said Mario Solis-Marich, chief executive officer of the NTFAP. ▼

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HRC adds staff to LGBT unit

Improvement seen for transgender community

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco's Human Rights Commission (HRC) has announced the expansion of its Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and HIV Unit. Three new employees have been hired, which doubles the unit's size, said coordinator Larry Brinkin. The expansion was necessary for the HRC to implement the city's groundbreaking equal benefits ordinance, which went into effect June 1. Brinkin said additional staff were also needed to improve the unit's ability to serve the transgender community.

The HRC is unique in the United States in its dedication to defending the rights of individuals discriminated against on the basis of gender identity, sexual orientation, or HIV status. The commission is also charged with

the enforcement of the equal benefits ordinance, which requires all businesses contracting with the city to provide benefits to domestic partners of employees if benefits are provided to spouses. Mayor Willie Brown signed the law last November.

New staff members Ron Hypolite and Marianna Balquiedra join the unit as representatives, while Carol Ackles has been hired as a clerk typist. In addition to Brinkin, existing staff members Brian Cheu and Cynthia Goldstein round out the unit. The entire team is greatly enhanced in its three primary duties, explained Brinkin: to mediate and investigate discrimination complaints; to implement the equal benefits ordinance; and to provide staff support for two advisory committees to the HRC.

The advisory committees are the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans-

gender Advisory Committee, and the Youth and Education Committee.

"We are proud to welcome Ron, Marianna, and Carol," said Marivic Bamba, HRC's executive director. "Their distinguished backgrounds will greatly augment the commission's ability to effectively enforce the equal benefits ordinance, a critical victory in the equal pay for equal work struggle. Mayor Brown's strong support for this legislation is demonstrated by his approval of increased resources to get the job done."

Ackles joined the unit after years of advocacy work relating to mental health issues and prisoners' rights.

Balquiedra has degrees in computer science, business administra-

tion, and international management. Since 1996, Balquiedra has been on the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council. Before joining HRC, she was executive director of the Filipino Task Force on AIDS. Prior to that job, she was the executive director of Remedios AIDS Foundation in Manila in the Philippines. She developed programs for people living with HIV, including those in the transgender community. She was also a HIV advisory council member to the President of the Philippines.

Hypolite, a graduate of University of California, Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law, has a rich background of experience, ranging from litigation to six years as client services director for the AIDS Legal Referral Panel.

Hypolite is currently the chair of Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA). He also publishes *Departure Point*, an African-American newsletter of East Bay and San Francisco politics, culture, and art.

"Ron, Marianna, and Carol's breadth of experience, both individually and as a team, will enrich the unit and our ability to respond to discrimination," Brinkin said. "Look for a coming expansion of services, especially in our ongoing commitment to the transgender community." ▼

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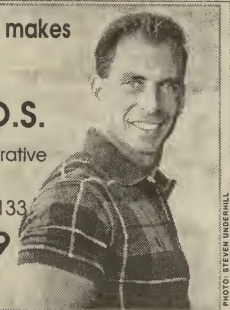
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Project Inform update set for August 19



Judy Leahy Hogan

by Dennis Conkin

Martin Delaney, the founder of Project Inform, and other staff of the AIDS treatment information and advocacy group will present information and answer questions about AIDS treatment issues at a Project Inform update and town meeting on Tuesday, August 19.

Appearing with Delaney will be Dawn Averitt, a women's AIDS treatment advocate with Project Inform and Project Wise (Women's Information Service

and Exchange), and PT's Ben Chen and Brenda Lein.

The update will have several focus areas, including an update from the Los Angeles conference on women and AIDS held in April, and current issues related to treatment with protease inhibitors.

According to Project Inform spokesman Ben Collins, an estimated 30 percent of people who take protease inhibitors will have treatment failure on the drugs for a variety of reasons. Problems with side effects and adherence to treatment requirements, as well as with accessing the expensive treatments are fairly common.

Although Collins called protease treatments "a step forward," he expressed concern about media portrayals of the drugs as a panacea for HIV, and said that some people who have been drawn into AIDS treatment after recent media and advertising blitzes about the drugs "are really going to feel cheated" when the drugs don't work for them.

Other aspects of treatment such as new therapy options (1592, 141, DMP-266), long-term strategies, information on drug resistance, immune restoration, and a variety of other issues will be discussed at the update.

The coordinator of the town meeting is Judy Leahy Hogan,

page 20 ►

Spectrum director resigns

by Lois Pearlman

Saying the agency needs someone with fresh new energy to guide it into the future, Pat Tibbs, executive director of Marin County's Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns, resigned her post July 31.

"I've given it what I can for more than two years," said Tibbs, a San Francisco resident. "I don't have the energy to drive that anymore."

Tibbs said she decided it was time to move on when she realized she was working 55 to 60 hours per week, with no end in sight.

"I really did this for myself," she said. "I believe that people should take care of themselves."

But all her hard work has paid off for the San Anselmo-based organization, which serves over 5,000 people per year, according to Tom Matteoli, president of Spectrum's board of directors.

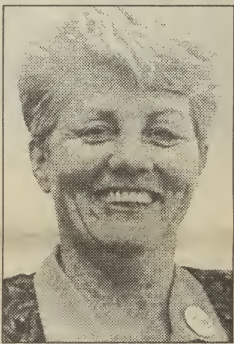
Matteoli said Tibbs' accomplishments over the past two years have strengthened Spectrum's position as the focal point for the gay community in Marin County.

"She hired some very, very good people," said Matteoli. "She was good at establishing communication within the community, bringing various groups together, and developing a variety of programs, such as Cafe Spectrum, a popular drop-in group."

According to Matteoli, Tibbs was also successful at snagging some multi-year funding grants from such groups as United Way and the Marin Community Foundation, as well as achieving a positive press image for the organization in both gay and mainstream publications.

But her biggest accomplishment, if Tibbs has anything to say about it, could be a proposal she made to change the social service agency into a membership organization that offers a variety of activities for an annual membership fee, as well as continuing its grant-funded programs for senior men and women and young people, what Tibbs called the "vulnerable groups."

Tibbs said this would be a way for Spectrum to get out from under the yoke of dependency upon ever-dwindling grant moneys.



Pat Tibbs

"We've been creeping in that direction for the last few years," said Tibbs, citing Cafe Spectrum, men's and women's groups for 35- to 55-year-olds, and a new women's group in Novato. "People want activities such as movies, theater, athletic events, and an opportunity to learn things. A lot of gay and lesbian community centers are working on that principle."

This proposal is "on the table in terms of long-range planning," said Spectrum's acting director, John Kirkley, who served as program director under Tibbs.

But first on the organization's agenda is finding a new executive director to replace Tibbs, and dealing with some staffing cutbacks that are a result of diminished funding.

Spectrum has also scheduled a town hall meeting for Sunday, August 24.

In the meantime, Tibbs is continuing to work on call for Spectrum for the month of August to ease it through its transition period. She is also establishing herself as a consultant for private businesses, something she hopes will help her create a little nest egg towards her future retirement. ▼

The town hall meeting starts at 4 p.m. in the San Anselmo Parks and Recreation Department gym, which is next door to the Spectrum office. Spectrum is located at 1000 Sir Frances Drake Boulevard. For more information, call (415) 457-1115.

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Helms vs. Weld: the subtext

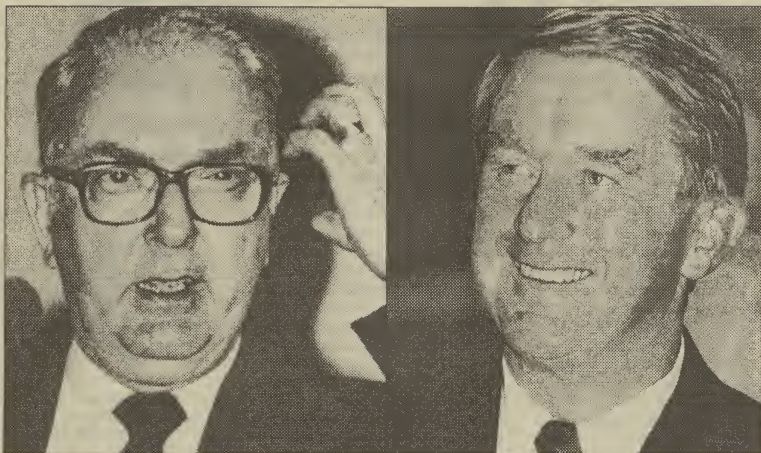
by Bob Roehr

William Weld, the now ex-Governor of Massachusetts, is challenging the way Washington does business. The ostensible target is Jesse Helms, who is blocking Weld's nomination as Ambassador to Mexico. But the greater challenge is to the Senate and ultimately the Clinton administration.

Helms says that Weld's support for medicinal marijuana would undercut his ability to deal with that nation on drug issues. But everyone knows that Helms is clutching at a fig leaf, a pretext for much broader disagreements that are not germane to this nomination. The pair are polar opposites across virtually the entire range of social issues, not the least of which is gays and lesbians. The community calls Weld the nation's most pro-gay governor, Helms their anti-Christ.

Many Republican Senators are deferring to Helms. They don't want to cross the vindictive chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and most are more conservative than the libertarian-flavored Weld. But they also are protective of the rules of the Senate and hence their own power.

They publicly complain that if Weld had just not shattered the decorum of their gentlemen's club by speaking publicly, then maybe a quiet deal could have been worked out. It is the standard Washington dodge, criticize



Morality play: The Helms-Weld affair provides a lacerating look at Beltway politics.

the packaging when you are uncomfortable with the substance.

Surely the Clinton administration knew of Helms's antipathy towards Weld, and the Senator's demonstrated willingness to use the power of his office to achieve his goals. That is likely why they did not clear it ahead of time with Helms: they knew what the answer would be.

No doubt they expected things to take the same course as three years ago with the trial balloon of James Hormel as the first openly gay ambassador. That is, float the name, get the good press for the "effort," and let the nominee twist

slowly in the wind without ever being acted upon.

But Weld believes that if something is worth doing, it is worth doing right, with all your effort. His public statements and now resignation were meant to force the issue, first with Clinton to make the nomination official, then with Helms and his fellow Republicans in the Senate to act upon it.

So far, Weld has been successful in framing the issue as one of fairness. "What are you afraid of, Mr. Bully?" he is in effect saying. "If you're so sure of your position, they why not talk about it in

public hearings, and put it to a vote in the Senate?"

The counterattack has been most personal. The conservative *Washington Times* ran an editorial cartoon depicting Weld as a diapered baby in a playpen. A broken doll tagged "Governor-

ship" lay to the right. He was bawling, stomping his foot, and pointing to a hobbyhorse labeled "Mexico," just beyond his reach to the left. Others have tried to spin Weld's decisive actions as those of an unstable man.

The Clinton administration seems more worried about offending Helms than about confirming Weld. The Senator's words don't influence many people, but his power of the calendar controls the agenda of the Foreign Relations Committee. That is why Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has been sucking up to him on matters ranging from the sublime to a T-shirt reading "Somebody at the State Department [hearts] loves me." So don't look for Clinton to use a "recess appointment" of Weld to bypass the confirmation process.

Weld's fight lays bare the pettiness, intolerance, and lack of principle that too often passes for politics in the Capitol. We should watch this morality play closely. For if the political process does not offer a fair hearing for someone with the advantages of a William Weld, then what can we expect as gays and lesbians? ▼

Virginia appeals court rules for Bottoms

by Cynthia Laird

Citing the best interest of her biological child, a Virginia appeals court last week reversed a draconian visitation order against Sharon Bottoms, whose son was taken away from her four years ago because she is a lesbian. On July 29, a unanimous Virginia Court of Appeals overturned a 1996 ruling by Henrico County Circuit Judge Buford M. Parsons, Jr., which severely limited contact between Bottoms and her five-year-old son, Tyler Doustou, who is currently in the custody of his maternal grandmother.

Parsons had ruled that Bottoms may only visit with Tyler at her home, and only when Bottoms's live-in partner, April Wade, is not present. The order also barred Wade from ever communicating with Tyler, even by telephone.

In overturning that decision, the appeals court ruled that Tyler's best interest should take precedence in a visitation dispute, and that a person's sexual orientation alone should not be used to deny or restrict visitation. The court remanded the case back down to the lower court.

"While issues of adult sexuality and related behavior are significant to an adjudication of visitation, such factors must be assessed by the court together with other relevant circumstances and balanced in a visitation arrangement which both benefits and protects the child," said Judge Richard S. Bray.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), which represents Bottoms, said that last week's decision was the first by a higher court in Virginia to rule explicitly that a person's sexual orientation alone should be irrelevant in determining a visitation. ▼

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Beat legend Burroughs dies

United Press International

William S. Burroughs, whose 1959 experimental novel *Naked Lunch* set the stage for the underground revolution against society, died August 2 at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. He was 83.

Burroughs stood with novelist Jack Kerouac and the late poet Allen Ginsberg at the center of the Beat Generation movement and was one of the most innovative writers of English since James Joyce. His writing broke down barriers of style and content but helped give form to the aimless alienation of a generation, especially before and after the publication of *Naked Lunch*, a horror account of life in the underworld of drug addiction and crime.

Burroughs, a homosexual and drug addict whose works were so difficult to read that popular critics initially rejected him, came from prominent Midwestern and Southern families who represented the very antithesis of Burroughs's wild, iconoclastic life.

Though his innovation and attitude of revolt earned him an immediate place in literary history and a lasting appeal to youth, it was only after the mid-1960s that critics gave him any respect. His reputation endured long after he left the literary limelight of Paris, London and New York, and turned to a reclusive life in the unlikely location of Lawrence, Kan.

Born Feb. 5, 1914, in St. Louis, Mo., Burroughs was the grandson of the inventor of the adding machine and founder of the Burroughs office equipment and computer empire. His mother, Laura Lee Burroughs, was the daughter of a distinguished minister whose family claimed descent from Robert E. Lee.

Burroughs inherited both the inventiveness of the paternal grandfather and the verbal skill of the maternal grandfather. But scholars believe the Lee family in particular may have influenced some of Burroughs's major preoccupations as a writer.

The Rev. James W. Lee and his son, Ivy Ledbetter Lee, were both speakers and writers. Ivy Lee, Burroughs's uncle, used the family talent with words and personal relations to serve the great capitalists of his time and, in the words of his biographer, was "the first public relations man."

Despite his well-groomed, moneyed background, Burroughs used his talent to attack the existing social order, as exemplified by his first novel, *Junkie* (1953), *Naked Lunch* (1959), and the trilogy *The Soft Machine* (1961), *The Ticket That Exploded* (1962), and *Nova Express* (1964).

It was for *Naked Lunch* that Burroughs was best remembered. Written over the course of six years - 1953 to 1959 - the book is a wild plunge into the mind of a drug addict. Burroughs was helped by Ginsberg in the preparation of the final draft, published in 1959 in Paris. Publication in the United States was blocked until 1962 and was successfully defended in two censorship trials in Boston and Los Angeles.

The book takes place in Interzone, a "carny world" of sexual deviants, junkies and crooks where the metaphor of the carnival built



William S. Burroughs

on con man and mark is the central economic and power relationship.

The structure is a dense stream-of-consciousness consisting of dialogue, association images and plot episodes that resemble *On the Road* on one level, but is far more complicated and non-linear.

This experimentation, which brought Burroughs comparisons to Joyce, was the glue that held together all of Burroughs's work. He used a cut-up technique borrowed from Beat painter Brion Gysin and the be-bop jazz musicians that relied on a montage of text to break through to more complex sentences and imagery.

Burroughs's personal life was as chaotic as his writing, marked by drug use that began with morphine addiction in 1941 and later became a heroin habit.

His first marriage ended in divorce from Ilse Herzfeld Klapper in 1946. A disastrous common-law marriage to Joan Vollmer was climaxed in a bizarre William Tell-like accident in which Burroughs accidentally shot and killed her in 1951.

The couple had a son, William Burroughs Jr., also an author, an alcoholic who died in 1981.

"Burroughs himself seems to have passed through this shambles of a life with innocence untouched. That apparent innocence, even delight, in the face of sordidness and horror is a central hallmark of his writing," said art scholar Charles Hage.

During the '40s and early '50s, Burroughs was closely associated with the writers of the Beat Generation and his life was chronicled in the writings of Kerouac, who often used Burroughs as a character.

But in the 1983 documentary film, *Burroughs*, the author characteristically debunked much of what Kerouac wrote about him:

"Everything that Jack Kerouac wrote you have to take with a grain of salt." ▼

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Will Amans



Those who remember the old Norse Cove may also remember Will Amans. When it became apparent that he was ill, he returned to Wisconsin, where he died in August 1995. He spent most of his

last days sitting under a favorite apple tree in a place called Buckskin Hollow painting and sketching. After his death, a number of people gathered to scatter his ashes under the apple tree and to remember him in a loving way.

In a two-page spread concerning AIDS in Green County, the *Monroe Evening Times* said that Will in the end had become a role model for the people of the county in how he dealt with HIV and his final sickness. In his own way, Will helped to raise the consciousness of his neighbors and to educate them about AIDS. One of the wishes expressed by him in his last journal entries was that he be able to incorporate his illness into a positive legacy for the world. He did.

David Andrew Briggs

Aug. 17, 1939 - June 30, 1997



David Briggs grew up in Idaho. He received master's degrees from the University of Idaho and the University of Washington at Seattle. Fluent in Spanish, he was director of courses at the Language School of the U.S. Information Agency in Montevideo, Uruguay. He settled in San Francisco in 1969 and performed with the rock group Hear and Now, celebrating the city in his compositions. In the 1970s he taught English as a second language at U.C. Berkeley. He became a master upholsterer and spent many summers along

his beloved Yuba River.

David is survived by his mother, Signe Briggs; his brother, Marlin Briggs; his children, Brent Briggs of Idaho and Wendy Thoni of Colorado; and five grandchildren. He is mourned by many friends, among them Glenn Todd and Jay de Bogue.

Dave was a perfect Leo - sun-loving, energetic, creative. He hiked the trails of the Sierras and ran up mountains. He died suddenly, unexpectedly, at his home in San Francisco. In memory his voice rises in song, his tongue tumbles out poetry, his laughter resounds. "For Death, he taketh all away, but them he cannot take."

A memorial will be held August 17. For information call 921-1483.

Mark Allen Hugunin

April 22, 1963 - July 31, 1997

Mark Allen Hugunin ("Church Lady"), 34, died Thursday, July 31, at his home. Born in Indianapolis, Ind., he had been a resident of California since 1984.

Mark is survived by his parents, Carolyn and Phillip Klinepeter of Concord, Calif.; brother, Terry Hugunin of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; uncle, Tim Ryan of Hayward, Calif.; partner, Karl Valencia of Napa, Calif.; and his biological father, Jim Hugunin of Indianapolis.

Mark was a 1981 graduate of Avon High School in Indianapolis, and was employed as a chef and home efficiency organizer. He was also an active member of the Diablo Valley AIDS Center (DVAC). In addition, he was instrumental in the organization of Napa County's first HIV/AIDS food bank and resource center through Nobodies Bar in Vallejo, Calif.

A memorial service and celebration of Mark's life will be held at noon on August 10 at DVAC. Memorial contributions can be made to DVAC, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, CA 94520.

Stephen Albert Jacobs

May 3, 1948 - July 26, 1997



A passionate advocate for living life to the ultimate adventure, Steve Jacobs embarked on yet another fantastical journey when he succumbed to AIDS early Saturday morning, July 26. At his side as always since his diagnosis in March 1994 was his lover and life partner of 14 years, Stan Wong.

From his childhood in Orland, Calif., Steve was captivated by a diverse group of interests that included languages, opera, music and theater of the French Baroque, computer science, medieval and Renaissance art, and film-makers. Although an attorney by profession, Steve was humble in nature and down-to-earth in spite of his staggering intelligence. Wherever he journeyed in life, he relished the opportunity to share his amazing experiences.

In addition to his beloved Stanley, Steve leaves behind his mother, Frances ("Bamby"), sister, Jane; brother, Larry;

their respective families; neighbors, Dub, Diane and Molly; friends, Rex, Cliff, Wayne, Nancy, Dean, Jeff, Tom and Doug; and countless others. Steve was extremely grateful for his outstanding medical care, and wishes to thank the doctors and nurses who made it possible. Special thanks to volunteers Kris Matsuyama and Keith Rasmussen.

An open house will be held on Sunday, August 24 (415/626-8606). Donations are encouraged to either Hospice by the Bay or the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Randolph Ray Jones

Nov. 26, 1942 - July 12, 1997

Randolph Ray Jones, also known as Lozano, passed away at his San Francisco home on July 12 of lung cancer.

Randolph was born in Silver City, N.M., and came to San Francisco as a child. He attended public schools here and was a 1960 graduate of Balboa High School. He attended City College as a drama student. Following college, Randy worked for the U.S. Postal Service, as a film extra, and for the Merchant Marines, from which he retired. He did volunteer work for the Shanti Project and the American Youth Hostel.

Randy was cremated, and his remains now rest at the San Francisco Columbarium. He is survived by his longtime love and domestic partner of more than 30 years, Eugene S. Kaack. His friends will miss his wit, smile, laughter and love of life.

Good-bye, my beautiful man.

Raymond Wilson Jr.

Aug. 21, 1954 - June 26, 1997



You may have called me, and I didn't answer. You may have visited, and I didn't talk. I wasn't being disrespectful, but God and I were taking a walk. Remember me as I was. There shall be no regrets. I'll see you again, and then we'll visit and chat.

Raymond, 42, left on June 26 at 4:45 a.m. at his home in San Francisco. His courageous battle with AIDS finally ended. At his side were his sister, Martha, and her husband, Reginald. He was preceded in death in 1994 by his lover and companion of six years, Clifford Olsen.

A Mississippi native, Raymond worked for New York Life before being diagnosed with AIDS. His way of being was always enjoyed by those who knew and loved him.

Raymond is survived by his mother, Georgia Wilson; sons, Kendrick and Eric; and brothers, Michael, Darnell and Tommie. Thanks to Jerry Stock, David Alvie and Mark Western for their love, support and caring. Thanks to the staff at Hospice by the Bay, the staff and volunteers at Project Open Hand and the Food Bank, and to James Abrams at N.A.A.P. Also, a special thanks to Jane Matheson, Anita Peralta and Cheryl Ritchotte.

There'll never be another Gina, Nina, Tina Byrd. We miss you, Raymond.

Project Inform

◀ page 17

who was recently appointed the group's outreach and education coordinator.

With 12 years experience in community health outreach and education at the Santa Cruz AIDS Project, the Needles Exchange Project of Marin, and PI's National HIV/AIDS Hotline, Hogan echoed Collins's concern.

"The treatment situation has changed dramatically in the past year. This is a very challenging time in AIDS, with many more people exploring treatment op-

tions. While we expect to see a net health gain for people with HIV, we are quite concerned about drug failure with new combination therapies.

"It's essential that treatment newcomers, especially women and people of color, get the information they need to make difficult choices," Hogan said.

In addition to the town meeting, Project Inform will also hold a training for the PI Hotline on August 20, 23, and 24. The training will be conducted by Eric Whitney, the agency's new hotline manager.

Whitney was formerly the Information Manager for the Cali-

fornia HIV/AIDS Hotline at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. He begins work at Project Inform on August 18. ▼

The free August 19 community update will be held at the University of California Laurel Heights Conference Center at 3333 California Street from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Refreshments and child care will be provided. Donations are appreciated. For more information about the update or town forum, contact 558-9051. For child care at the update, contact Judy Hogan at 558-8669, ext. 219.

Andrew Cunanan did not have HIV

United Press International

Investigators are searching for another motive for Andrew Cunanan's killing spree now that tests show he was not HIV-positive when he allegedly killed five men before committing suicide.

The *Miami Herald* reported Friday, August 1 that three law enforcement sources confirmed tests by the Dade County Medical Examiner's Office revealed Cunanan did not have AIDS. There was speculation that Cunanan became enraged after he learned he had contracted AIDS and went on a

nationwide killing rampage.

The 27-year-old Cunanan's last victim was fashion designer Gianni Versace, shot to death outside his Miami Beach home July 15. One of the nation's most extensive manhunts ended eight days later when Cunanan killed himself as he hid out on a houseboat. ▼

Developing HIV drugs in the era of resistance

by Rick Loftus,
ACT UP/GG Writers Pool

The past month has presented some tough news to the HIV treatment trenches. First, at a meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida, over 200 AIDS researchers from around the world painted a grim picture of the emerging problem of HIV drug resistance and combination treatment failure. Elsewhere, Glaxo-Wellcome presented disappointing preliminary results from studies of their newest agent, "1592" or "abacavir." Data suggest the drug may not show good activity in the many people who have taken the older nucleoside drugs. Finally, Abbott Labs released news that—contrary to earlier expectations—their newest protease inhibitor, ABT-378, may share the resistance problems of older members of this promising group of drugs.

While the problem of HIV drug resistance may be overcome or prevented by better use of available agents, many experts admit that the best hope for overcoming the virus are better drugs—that is, drugs that are active against resistant HIV. The recent sobering news, however, suggests that existing pharmaceutical company development programs are not finding these drugs. In a few years, will we be awash with drugs that work against "wild type" virus, only to find that those viruses no longer exist in people, but only in test tubes?

Over 150,000 people in the U.S. are on protease inhibitors, and recent findings suggest many of them will eventually develop drug resistance. Clearly, how drug

companies find, evaluate, and develop new HIV drugs will have a major impact on whether people with HIV will have effective therapies in the years ahead.

Resistance: What is it?

First, let's review what we mean by "drug resistance." Antivirals work by binding to a target in the virus, usually a protein or enzyme. For example, "protease inhibitors" bind to an enzyme called "protease" that HIV uses to make more viruses. By attaching to the enzyme, the drug blocks or inhibits its function, and stops the virus.

Because HIV is sloppy when it reproduces, however, many of its baby viruses are imperfect copies of the parent. Often their proteins contain changes, or "mutations." We can think of the structure of proteins as being like strings of beads. Each "bead" in a protein "string" is an amino acid. If we change even one of the amino acids, we change the sequence, and so change the structure of the protein. For example, when HIV protease has the amino acid valine rather than the "wild type" isoleucine at position 84 of the "string," we get a new enzyme. We refer to the mutant enzyme as "184V"—isoleucine changed to valine at point 84.

If the structure of a protein changes, it makes it harder for a drug to attach to it. If the drug can't attach, it can't do its job, and the virus continues to reproduce. For example, viruses whose protease enzyme carries the 184V mutation are somewhat resistant to

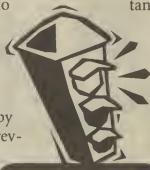
the drugs ritonavir (Norvir) and indinavir (Crixivan). When an enzyme carries multiple mutations, it interferes with drug binding even more, leading to serious resistance problems. If mutations occur in several different enzymes or proteins in a virus, then the virus is resistant to several different categories of drugs. Such viruses are now found in the bloodstreams of many people with HIV.

Once a person becomes resistant to a drug, the mutant viruses quickly "rebound," leading to higher viral loads. If the person stops taking the drug, the "wild type" virus quickly comes back and usually replaces the mutants. But if drug is re-started, it appears that the drug-resistant mutants quickly come

back. (This finding was reported at the Florida meeting by Dr. John Condra of Merck Labs.)

HIV drug resistance: a growing problem

Perhaps the most important message from the Florida meeting was that once people's HIV becomes resistant to one protease inhibitor, they respond poorly to follow-up treatment with other drugs in this group. For example, a study of people with saquinavir (Invirase) resistance found that follow-up treatment with Crixivan resulted in minor and short-lived reductions in virus. In another talk, Dr. Bob Shafer of Stanford described how people who have had extensive previous treatment with numerous anti-HIV drugs are resistant to all available therapies. While many studies at



ACT UP

the conference described the nature and severity of the HIV drug resistance problem, no formal

page 23 ►

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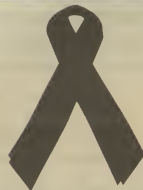
Young Men's HIV Study

An HIV prevention study funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is recruiting 100 gay men between the ages of 18 and 25 living in the Bay Area to complete a questionnaire and a test. Participation in the study will require approximately 1 hour. Participants will be paid \$35.

If interested, please call 1-800-577-6675 for an appointment. The study can be conducted anywhere in the Bay Area.

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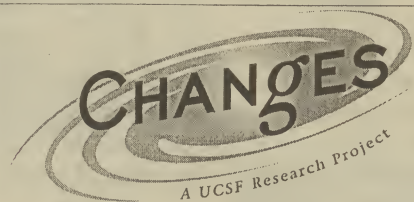
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Tie-in me up, tie-in me down!

by Jim Provenzano

Idea Guy's lunch meeting with Money Guy and Money Guy's Assistant. Product merchandising ideas for *Kopay: the Movie*, starring Dean Cain. Release date: Spring, 1999.

Money Guy: Well, Stan, we really like many parts of your proposal. The book, of course. Okay. Baseball cards. Understandable. Some of us, however, preferred Wacky Packages. (Laughter) Team logo key chains? Yes. That's sensible. The jackets and T-shirts are very nice. Subtle. I think we're in agreement that those angles will work. But bedsheets?

Idea Guy: Yes? Money Guy: We're gonna sell bedsheets with pictures of a gay football player played by a —

Idea Guy: Who was also a professional football player.

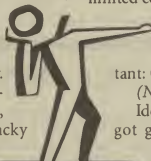
Money Guy's Assistant: ... for the Bills, for like a season.

Money Guy: What we really —

Idea Guy: Look, I know that it's a very specific target market...

Money Guy: I'll say! Get me a dozen! (Laughter) But what about the Wal-Marts in Idaho?

Idea Guy: They got gay people out there, too. Plus people who don't give a rat's ass. We're talking limited edition.



Sports Complex

Money Guy: Well... Money Guy's Assistant: Queen size? (Near-laughter)

Idea Guy: In addition, you got gay dads, and families with ... Here's the concept, guys. Kids dream about their heroes. Sports star bedsheets, Wild West bedsheets. Michael Jordan hug

toys. I mean, come on, comic book characters. The WWE. Money Guy's Assistant: Which are comic book characters.

Idea Guy: Right, right. This is a tradition that goes back to Davy Crockett bedsheets. Just like the Hercules sleeping bag. It's selling. They are movin' units. (Pauses, with an air of false concentration) It'll work.

Money Guy: But Martina lost — we can't do an endorsement contract with —

Idea Guy: I think you can. I think it is also illegal in this state to say you can't because he's gay.

Money Guy: Now, now. No reason to get upset.

Idea Guy: Sorry. Money Guy: It's just that we face the reality of telling...

Idea Guy: I know, I know.

Money Guy: You heard about the George of the Jungle merchandising thing?

Idea Guy: No.

Money Guy: Why the toys for McDonald's were delayed?

Idea Guy: No.

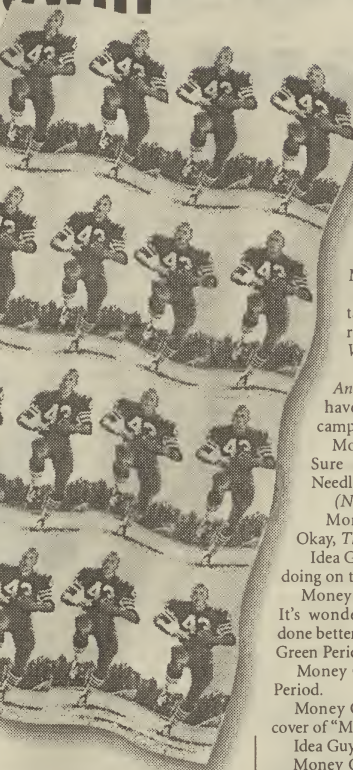
Money Guy: Apparently the jungle motif offended a few... employees... but also, the action figure and his, what did they call it —

Money Guy's Assistant: "Tented extension."

Money Guy: Yes, the "tented extension" on the little plastic doll shaped like Brendan Fraser, which, even though he's wearing a skirt —

Money Guy's Assistant: Loin-cloth.

Money Guy: — Thank you — could be implied, that he was in an aroused... yes (laughter all around). Well, anyway. The collectibles market is already on that



Money Guy's Assistant: The thing I'm liking is the 70s angle. I mean, make it so groovily retro that you like the guy —

Money Guy: Groovily? I don't think groovy can become an adverb, Mister Powers.

Money Guy's Assistant: Whatever. It's retro, like I Shot Andy Warhol.

Money Guy: I Shot Andy Warhol did not have an effective tie-in campaign, as I recall.

Money Guy's Assistant: Sure they did. Celebrity Needle Exchange.

(No laughter)

Money Guy's Assistant: Okay, The Brady Bunch!

Idea Guy: How are you guys doing on the soundtrack?

Money Guy: Oh, you know, It's wonderful. Couldn't have done better. They got this group, Green Period?

Money Guy's Assistant: Blue Period.

Money Guy: They're doing a cover of "Mighty Real."

Idea Guy: Fabulous.

Money Guy: Anyway, yes. Let me just... forward your thoughts to our board.

Idea Guy: Cool.

(Waiter arrives. He is gorgeous.)

Waiter: Who had the Calistoga?

Money Guy: Here.

Waiter: Your iced tea.

Idea Guy: Thanks.

(Waiter sets down Assistant's drink.)

Idea Guy: Can I have a spoon?

Waiter: Sure.

(Waiter turns away. All three watch him leave, then catch each other. Laughter.)

(Fade to black.) ▼

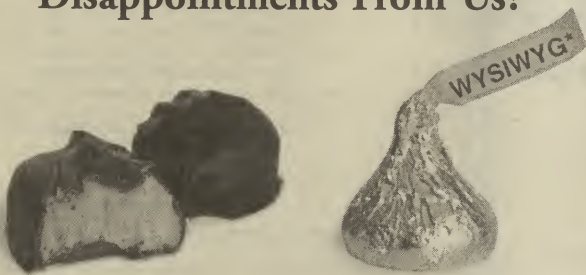
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Professor's gay study nixed in Idaho; ACLU files lawsuit

by Dennis Conkin

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has filed a federal free speech lawsuit against the Idaho Board of Education (IBE) after it rejected a professor's proposal solely because it dealt with lesbian and gay issues.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Boise, Idaho on July 31 and charges that the board violated historian Dr. Peter Boag's academic freedom.

Boag, a professor at the University of Idaho, wanted to research the history of lesbian and gay communities in the Pacific Northwest. His proposal, "Progressive Political and Social Control in the Rural and Urban Northwest 1870-1920," was one of 16 proposed Idaho research projects that totaled \$439,000 in state education funds.

"Like many of my colleagues, the proposal I submitted sought to document and analyze an unexplored area of history," said Boag. "The only difference was that my research didn't pass their political litmus test."

All proposals were approved for funding by the IBE last April except Boag's, according to ACLU spokesman Denny Lee.

The board voted 5-3 to reject

Boag's \$30,000 study, despite the grant's approval by the IBE's higher education council and the study's widespread support from Boag's academic peers.

The American Association of University Professors and the Idaho State University Faculty Council have criticized the denial of state funds for Boag's groundbreaking study.

A resolution passed by the state university faculty group said the vote was motivated by politics and the fear of negative public reaction in the extremely conservative state to funding a project dealing with homosexuality, and said that denying the project for political reasons caused "a chilling effect on academic freedom."

According to the ACLU, the IBE's decision represents "one of the first skirmishes" as the burgeoning field of Gay Studies spreads from urban academic environments to places such as the University of Idaho.

"This is one of the first times I've seen a gay-related research project suppressed in such an overt manner," said attorney Jennifer Middleton of the ACLU's National Lesbian and Gay Rights Project based in New York. "We hope that Boag's lawsuit will be a warning to other universities that anti-gay prejudice has no place in academics." ▼

CLASSIFIEDS

ACT UP

page 21

studies demonstrated ways of preventing the problem, nor of successfully treating people who have developed resistance to available anti-HIV medications. Moreover, it appears that HIV drug resistance is not only a tough problem, but also a common one. An ongoing study headed by Drs. Steven Deeks and Bob Grant at San Francisco General Hospital's Ward 86 has analyzed the charts of over 300 patients taking protease inhibitors in combination regimens. While no formal results are yet available, Dr. Deeks has estimated that between 25 and 45 percent of the Ward 86 patients have had failing combinations.

What drug companies are doing

Several talks at the Florida conference centered on how pharmaceutical companies develop new drugs against HIV. Dr. Joel Huff of Merck Research Laboratories reviewed the phases of the development process. He concluded that many of the new categories of drugs for HIV have major obstacles to surmount and will not be clinically available within the next two to three years. Such news is

would like to test drugs against virus from patients who have developed drug resistance, but says obtaining such samples has been difficult, mostly due to legal and bureaucratic reasons.

Like most companies in the field, DuPont Merck is developing drugs that attack wild type virus, and may, to some extent, have activity against viruses with modest resistance mutations. They are not seeking agents that can suppress strongly resistant virus, however. The question is, will such programs generate the kinds of therapies that succeed in the long run?

Oscillation therapy

One scientist who doubts this is Dr. John Erickson of the National Cancer Institute. As a structural biochemist, Erickson believes that companies will be hard-pressed to find drugs that can be very potent while being able to block both wild and mutant viruses. Rather than looking for activity against drug-resistant mutants as sort of the "icing on the cake," Erickson believes the companies should develop drugs that specifically suppress the mutants—and that, of all things, support the return of wild virus.

Erickson explains: "When the wild type virus comes back, we can handle it [with the older

Because HIV is sloppy when it reproduces, many of its baby viruses are imperfect copies of the parent. Often their proteins contain changes, or "mutations." We can think of the structure of proteins as being like strings of beads. Each "bead" in a protein "string" is an amino acid. If we change even one of the amino acids, we change the sequence, and so change the structure of the protein.

discouraging for people who have developed resistance to the existing categories of drugs.

Meanwhile, most companies developing new HIV drugs in the three established classes—nucleoside analogs, non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs), and protease inhibitors—have not formally sought drugs that can attack drug-resistant mutants. One company that has some limited testing is DuPont Merck, which has two "second generation" protease inhibitors in development, DMP850 and DMP851. At the Florida meeting, Dr. Lee Bacher described how her team tested these new protease inhibitors against HIV that carried the "184V" mutation. The drugs are not only able to inhibit "wild type" virus, but also, to some extent, simple mutants—viruses that carry one or a few resistance mutations.

In a follow-up interview, however, Bacher explained that the purpose of screening against such "single-point mutants" was to find agents that discourage the emergence of resistance, rather than treat it. "All of our experience to date says that 184V is the worst single point mutation for [the DuPont Merck drugs], so when our chemists make a new one, we look at activity against wild type and mutant virus... What we're not doing is developing a drug against a multiply-mutated virus. That's real hard," Bacher said she

drugs]. If you had something that suppresses virus for six months to a year, and the mutant emerges, you then have a drug that suppresses the mutant, and then wild-type re-emerges." In other words, Erickson envisions chasing the virus back and forth, containing it between two sets of therapies. He calls this concept "oscillation therapy," and he admits the idea might not work. What's important, however, is that Erickson has envisioned a rational strategy for keeping the virus at bay—and that his model would require drug companies to discover and develop drugs in a totally different way. After his talk at the Florida meeting, Erickson was approached by companies that had found such drugs, and had thrown them away, because they were not active against wild type virus. He hopes to work with these drugs in his lab.

Erickson says his ideas "generate a real emotional reaction from very good clinical virologists who have been overwhelmed by the resistance response in patients. They feel it's a hopeless task, that the virus will always outwit you... They've earned the right to say, 'Show me your idea will work.' Erickson believes that while his ideas have not gained acceptance for the moment, "the pendulum may swing back in one or two years." Unfortunately, people with drug-resistant HIV may not be able to wait that long. ▼

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215410

The following person(s) are doing business as YERBA BUENA PUBLISHING COMPANY, 111 Jones St. #512, San Francisco, CA 94102-3965; Thomas J. McCarthy, 111 Jones St. #512, San Francisco, CA 94102-3965. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 7, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Thomas J. McCarthy. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 7, 1997.
July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215607

The following person(s) are doing business as FILLMORE FINE FOOD, 1981 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115; Foad Issa Dughman, 5 Belmont Dr., Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 25, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Foad I. Dughman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 11, 1997.
July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 987895

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of D'ANDRE LAMAR BROWN-MINOR by and through DIANA BLAIR-MOTHER for change of name. The application of D'ANDRE LAMAR BROWN-MINOR by and through DIANA BLAIR-MOTHER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that DIANA BLAIR has filed an application proposing that HER SON'S name be changed to JULIAN ALEXANDER BROWN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 15th day of August, 1997, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated the 2nd day of July, 1997.
July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 988117

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISIO for change of name. The application of ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISIO for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISIO has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to ROMEO BALDEVISIO-SALVITTI. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 29th day of August, 1997, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated the 14th day of July, 1997.
July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215664

The following person(s) are doing business as BUSINESS CONSULTING GROUP, 775 Burnett Avenue #6, San Francisco, CA 94131; RUDOLF ANDREAS HAENY, 775 Burnett Avenue #6, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 15, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RUDOLF HAENY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 15, 1997.
July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215719

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) ONE FOR THE ROAD, 2) DEEPTHROAT, 714 14th Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94114-1132; PHILIP ANDREW CLINE, 714 14th Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94114-1132. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above ficti-

tious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PHILIP ANDREW CLINE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 18, 1997.
July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215793

The following person(s) are doing business as TECH SEARCH NETWORK, 1360 Lombard Street, San Francisco, CA 94109; JUDY GOLDEN, 1360 Lombard Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JUDY GOLDEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 18, 1997.
July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215068

The following person(s) are doing business as 1)REMAIN.COM 2)REMAIN.COM TECH SUPPORT, 21 Columbus Avenue, Suite 202, San Francisco, CA 94111; STEWART KEITH MCKENZIE, 122 Joost Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed STEWART MCKENZIE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jun 23, 1997.
July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215615

The following person(s) are doing business as FORUM DESIGN, 612 Howard Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94105; Jay R. Hendler, 180 Brannan Street, Suite 320, San Francisco, CA 94107; Warner H. Schmalz, 2139 Rose St., Berkeley, CA 94709. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Warner H. Schmalz. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 14, 1997.
July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215848

The following person(s) are doing business as KEANE FIRE PROTECTION, 1113 Connecticut Street #6, San Francisco, CA 94107; Enda Patrick Keane, 3815 Susan Drive, N-10, San Bruno, CA 94066. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 22, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Enda Keane.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 22, 1997.
July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215944

The following person(s) are doing business as TRUST MAGAZINE, 460 Grove Street, San Francisco, CA 94102; Hot House Entertainment, Inc., Calif Corp., 2344 15th St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 1, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Steven R. Scarborough, president. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 24, 1997.
July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215864

The following person(s) are doing business as ISLAND MOTORS, 1145 O'Reilly Ave., San Francisco, CA 94124; Kwok Hung Ong, 18 Cadell Place #3, San Francisco, CA 94133. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Kwok Hung Ong. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 22, 1997.
July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215857

The following person(s) are doing business as MONKEY SEE LLC, 450 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103; Monkey See, LLC (CA), 450 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 22, 1997. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed David Tyreman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 22, 1997.
July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216244

The following person(s) are doing business as ZIGZAG PRODUCT DESIGN LLC, 2081 10th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116; Zigzag Product Design, Inc., 2081 10th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of August 4, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Zinozy Dolgonosov. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 4, 1997.
August 7, 14, 21, 28, 1997.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216121
The following person(s) are doing business as 1. R-K-NA 2. R K NA 3. ARCANIA, 1542 Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Humphrey Wou. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 30, 1997.
August 7, 14, 21, 28, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215492
The following person(s) are doing business as CREIGHTON'S LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE, 101 Evelyn Way, San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 1, 1997. This business is conducted by a individual. Signed Creighton S. Seitz. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 9, 1997.
August 7, 14, 21, 28, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215180
The following person(s) are doing business as SPP INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, 235 Pine Street, Suite 1475, San Francisco, CA 94104. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 1, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Laura S. Brom, Chief Financial Officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 26, 1997.
Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1997.

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page 34

Deborah Peifer waxes poetic on Marilyn Yalom's 'A History of the Breast.'
page 39



Allan Schindler case is revisited in Lifetime network teleplay.
page 32



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 32 • 7 August 1997

Who's afraid of Edward Albee?

by Chad Jones

'Three Tall Women' playwright talks about his mother, being gay, and Terrence McNally

Edward Albee has a reputation for being somewhat cranky, especially on the topic of his homosexuality. Over a Diet Coke at the Clift Hotel, however, Albee, who is in town to promote his play *Three Tall Women*, proves his reputation to be so much nonsense, not unlike all the hot and cold hoopla that has accompanied almost every one of the 25 plays he's penned over the last four decades. Probably best known for the 1962 play *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Albee is today regarded as one of the most consistently challenging of American playwrights. His newest work, *The Play About the Baby*, is scheduled to premiere in London in the fall of 1998.

At 69, the bespectacled, mustachioed Albee is a distinguished-looking gentleman who is perhaps cranky about some things (just get him started on the National Endowment for the Arts), but his solemnity is frequently interrupted by a wry smile and a hearty sense of humor.

Albee's childhood was spent breathing the rarefied air of affluent New York suburbs, military academies, and prep schools. Adopted by Reed and Frances Albee, young Edward never felt he belonged in the privileged world inhabited by his family. His troubled relationship with his mother, who was intolerant of homosexuality, is the basis for *Three Tall Women*, a

page 36 ►

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OUT THERE

by Chris Culwell and
Pithy Galore

Most folks we know who've seen the sweet flick *Kiss Me, Guido* assume its writer and director, **Tony Vitale**, is gay. The presumption is understandable considering that the story — dumpy fag ends up with strapping straight stud for a roommate — is the stuff of queer boy fantasies. Yet, ironically, Vitale has been somewhat cagey about the status of his sexuality in press interviews. In fact, in a recent *Village Voice* column, **Michael Musto** quoted Vitale as saying the first-time director "doesn't like the label thing" and "prefers to be considered a person," whatever that is. Never one to cotton to coyness, Musto rightly observed that Vitale's ambivalence about his sexuality is in stark contrast to the tone of his Paramount Pictures-backed film, whose script, says Musto, "was developed through a support group for gay and lesbian playwrights," and whose promotion has been based entirely "on the labels gay versus Guido." Which is odd, writes Musto, "for someone who finds it limiting to be called gay." It's called reality, Tony. Embrace it.

Smokescreens are also being deployed around *Guido*'s beautiful star, **Nick Scotti**, former **Calvin Klein** model and **Madonna** protégé. Musto reports that publicity types are desperately trying to broadcast the young actor's heterosexuality hither and yon, which explains the recent flurry of pics we've seen of him in magazines and newspapers arriving at New York parties with over-dressed minxes in tow. Mr. Scotti's sexuality has never really been in question, has it? Just listen to the bland, uninflected way he mouths the name **Julie Andrews** in *Guido*. Sorry, girls, fag he is not.

La Divina

Although rumors abound that **Faye Dunaway** may bow out of *Master Class* (because of some nefarious behind-the-scenes power-mongering over film rights to the play), everyone in San Francisco is still excited about the possibility of a visit here from the Oscar-winning star, everyone save the quaking employees of a certain hotel who are wondering if they've got what it takes to survive *Mommie Dearest*. One can understand their collective apprehension. Tales of the actress' hotel deportment abound. In fact, one of our favorite yarns concerns the star's last visit to SF. Our good friend **Tammy Rhinestone** just



Kiss Me Guido writer/director Tony Vitale and star Nick Scotti.

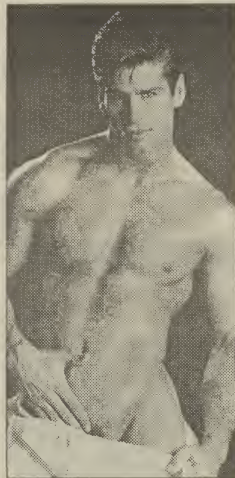
happened to be working at Hotel X the night Dunaway called down to the hotel's front desk to ascertain "the fish of the day." When Tammy told the actress that she had misdialed, that she needed the kitchen not the front desk,

there was a sudden whooshing sound followed by a high-pitched shriek: "I know who I've reached," the actress declaimed grandly, "and I want to know what is the fish of the day?!" When told she'd have to be put on hold and switched to the kitchen, Dunaway reportedly muttered something about **Jesus Christ** and hung up. Flummoxed by these outsized expressions of dismay, Tammy nervously rang the actress back to tell her the *poisson du jour* was **flounder**, a courageous and kind gesture for which she was rewarded with the odd remonstrance, "I know who you are and I know

who your manager is." Video rentals of *Mommie Dearest* were strong in the Union Square area that week. Surprisingly, tickets are still available for *Master Class*. Call 776-1999 to order.

Porn star has meltdown

A queen of a different sort is that sultry porn legend **Ryan Idol**, who's been making quite a name for himself as a legit actor in **Ronnie Larsen's** *Making Porn*. The play, which recently ran in San Francisco and just opened in Chicago last month, has been earning all sorts of rave notices, the reviews even singling out Ryan's affecting performance. Unfortunately, it looks like Idol's three minutes as a bonafide stage actor are just about up. According to *Making Porn* producer **Caryn Horowitz**, Larsen and Idol had a huge row a few weeks back that apparently got so out of hand Windy City bluecoats had to be called in to break it up, but not before Larsen was pinned to a table by a crazed Idol, hit in the mouth, and beaten with a garbage



Ryan Idol

pail. Idol was reportedly hauled away in cuffs.

Horowitz says the altercation between Idol and Larsen was trig-

gered by the porn star's having been upstaged by one of the other actors in the show. Fueled by a rush of insecurity, Idol reportedly stormed backstage promptly after the first act curtain and proceeded to "treat people like shit," Horowitz recalls. When Larsen, who'd previously warned Idol to curb his abusive behavior, told the actor to knock it off, things got out of hand. Larsen, who also wrote and directed the celebrated documentary *Shooting Porn*, says he will no longer use porn stars in his plays. *Making Porn* continues in the Windy City, with *Porn* alumni **Eric Jirak** taking over for the deposed Idol.

Anything goes

Pithy Galore was privy to an exclusive tour of the War Memorial Opera House last week, thanks to the generosity of a well-placed queen who shares Pithy's love of opera. The new seats are indeed quite comfy, the all-important ladies room on the main floor has been generously expanded (Pithy toured it twice),

page 47 ►



Out There

THE MYSTERY OF IRMA VEP by Charles Ludlam

directed by Tom Ross and Danny Scheie



"Danny Scheie triumphs ..." - Bay Area Reporter

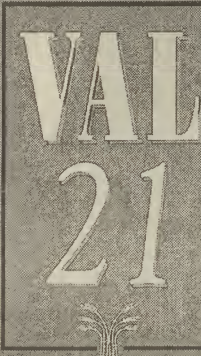
"Scheie and Robinson play all the various and sundry parts with amazing nuance and verve." - Oakland Tribune

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Murder most foul

Lifetime's 'Any Mother's Son'
revisits Allan Schindler case

by Gary Morris

The Lifetime cable channel has been criticized as the latter-day video equivalent of the Victorian melodrama, its programs just so much saccharine nonsense based on such easy material as fatal illnesses and hopeless romances. But intermingled with all the soaps are more topical dramas that maintain the emotional intensity of the network's bread-and-butter products without descending into bathos. David Burton Morris' *Any Mother's Son*, a dramatization of the notorious true-life case of the military's cover-up of a lethal gay-bashing, is a superb example.

In October 1992, gay sailor Allan Schindler was brutally murdered in a urinal by two of his shipmates at the Sasebo U.S. Naval Base in Japan. This turned out to be the logical outgrowth of a poisonously homophobic atmosphere at the base, a place where anti-gay slurs, taunts, and even assaults were regularly tolerated by Navy officials. At first, killer Terry Helvey claimed Schindler propositioned him; though he later recanted the charge, this accusation set the stage for viewing the murder as acceptable because of Schindler's homosexuality. The Navy did nothing to counter such notions, holding a secret court-martial and letting off one of the murderers, Charles Vins, with a mere slap on the wrist: 78 days in jail and a "less than honorable discharge," in spite of Vins' detailed description of how he smashed Schindler's head with his boots. It was only through the aggressive efforts of Schindler's mother, Dorothy Hajdys, that the second killer, Helvey, was given life in prison (he's eligible for parole in 2002).

In the dramatic version of these events, Allan Schindler (Paul Popowich) is a ghostly presence, a handsome, seemingly sweet young man glimpsed briefly at the beginning of the film talking obliquely with his mother (Bonnie Bedelia) on the stoop of their house. The next time we see him is the last time his family does—at the airport before departing for active duty in Japan. Director Morris implies a world of secrets in the halting embraces and tortured looks exchanged between mother and son, and eventually we find out why: two years earlier he had tried to tell her that he "liked men," an idea she rejected and effectively buried. As we learn, Allan's silences were reserved for his mother; he was ar-



Bonnie Bedelia as Dorothy Hajdys in *Any Mother's Son*.

ticulate in detailing his fears for his life in the Navy, and he had another life in the gay world, among friends who loved him without conditions attached by what he calls his "two families": blood relations and the Navy.

Invisible queer revealed

At first it isn't clear why Allan is treated as more of an apparition than a human being—even his death isn't shown, only the events leading up to it. But it becomes clear that this is a strategy by the filmmakers, a formal representation of society's devaluation of the gay man. His identity is vague, hidden, almost unknown, perhaps too shameful to be revealed. But the film does gradually construct his identity, as we the audience do, when Dorothy discovers his diary and meets the surprisingly wide range of friends, none of whom she knows, who attend Allan's memorial service. The picture that finally emerges is a searing one of a good boy raised to do right, to serve a country that allowed, even encouraged, his brutal murder because he was gay.

The film creates an equally wrenching portrait of Dorothy gradually coming to terms with something she doesn't understand, and realizing the simple truth that Allan's life was worth something, "queer" or not. Bonnie Bedelia perfectly embodies Dorothy's anguish in scenes like the one in which two Navy offi-

cers come to inform her of Allan's death. She intuits their purpose before they speak, emitting a series of faint, unearthly cries that director Morris records from a distance, as if her feelings are too fragile to be fully articulated. In spite of her breakdowns, she eventually realizes she has to fight for her son, and her face-to-face denunciation of a particularly smarmy Navy official is one of the film's most powerful scenes.

Any Mother's Son is refreshingly rough in its attacks on the pervasive homophobia in military culture, and the military's "who cares?" attitude toward it. The smooth-talking Navy spokespeople consistently lie to Dorothy about the progress of the case against Helvey and Vins, as they are apparently far more interested in preserving the fiction of a professional, harmonious organization than in seeing justice prevail for a dead homosexual. Yet the film is not that simple-minded. In a grim final moment, Dorothy confronts Helvey and asks him why he killed her son. "What did he ever do to you?" she cries. "Nothing," he says, with tears in his eyes. Both victim and killer, the film seems to be saying, are casualties of a degraded military culture that encourages society's basest instincts. ▼

Any Mother's Son airs Monday, Aug. 11 (9-11 p.m.) on Lifetime.

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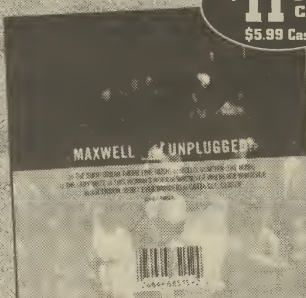
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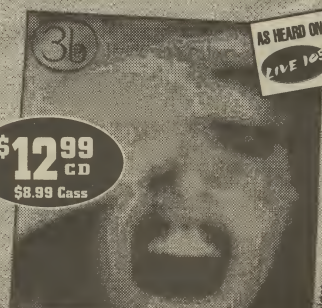
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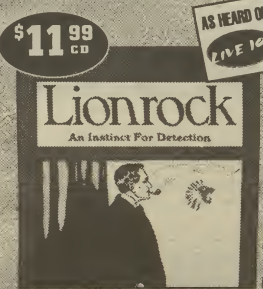
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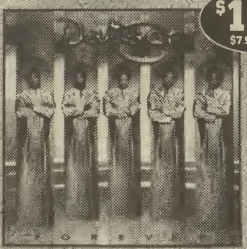
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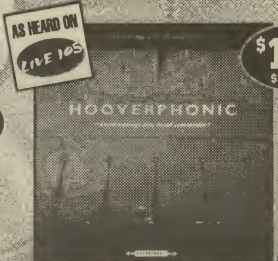
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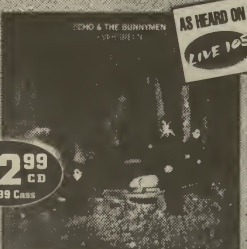
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Monster mash

Neil LaBute's boyfriends from hell

by Robert Julian

Writer/director Neil LaBute's first feature, *In the Company of Men*, provides a little shop of psychological horrors for an audience's entertainment delight. The film's plot is simple: Chad and Howard, two white-collar wannabe executives, make a pact to wine and dine the same woman and then unceremoniously dump her — for the fun of it. The woman selected is Christine, a deaf typist from the corporate steno pool. Chad and Howard romance her in the same spirit one would kick a puppy, and the film that revolves around their efforts both mesmerizes and repels. It's hard to watch *In the Company of Men*, but it's also hard to look away.

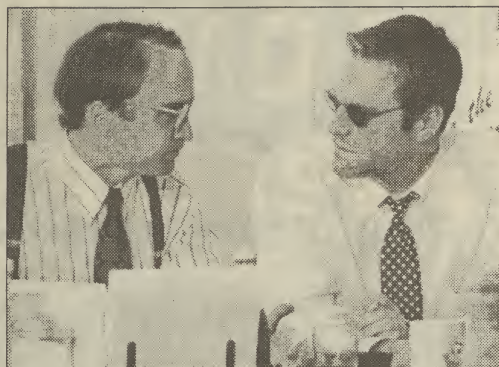
Chad is the misogynist par excellence who hatches the plot after he and Howard commiserate about being dumped by their most recent girlfriends. Howard, a spineless nebbish, goes along somewhat reluctantly. At first it

appears the men are simply exacting revenge on the female of the species via an innocent third party, but the depths of their individual neuroses becomes more apparent as LaBute's screenplay proceeds. Chad is a single-issue kind of guy. His sole concern is control: "Never lose control, that's the key to the universe," he explains to Howard. The opposite of Chad, Howard has "beat me" written all over him.

One reason *In the Company of Men* works so well is the acting of the three principals. Aaron Eckhart's Chad is the quintessential heterosexual corporate climber; his characterization is so perfect it aspires to archetype. You'll swear you recognize him, or someone like him, from somewhere. Matt Malloy is equally convincing as the hapless Howard, a man so lacking in personal inspiration that he follows the lead of the Machiavellian Chad against his better judgment. And Stacey Edwards creates Christine as the most innocent and guileless female character since Desdemona. Her portrayal of the

deaf typist is heartbreakingly simple and restrained, making the actions of Christine's seducers even more despicable.

LaBute has structured his work in a way that recalls Restoration comedy. In fact, *In the Company of Men* bears a slight resemblance to *Volpone*, but only if that play were directed by the Marquis de Sade. Unlike *Volpone*, however, the misanthropic Chad does not get his comeuppance at the end. And unlike the River Phoenix character in *Dogfight*, Nancy Savoca's wonderful 1991 film with a similar premise, Chad indulges in no morally redemptive behavior. *In the Company of Men* is a dark film, made even darker by the familiarity of the sentiments expressed by the two male leads. The characters make politically incorrect remarks that are offensive, but no adult beyond the age of 21 will hear anything he hasn't heard before; and therein lies the power



Matt Malloy and Aaron Eckhart in *In the Company of Men*.

of LaBute's work. These monsters, ultimately, are not so unlike ourselves. And the traps they set are all too familiar in the company most of us keep.

As a director, LaBute chooses to objectify the action with cold corporate interiors and minimal sets. And his primitive urban jungle leitmotif is perfectly reflected by the pounding drum beat of Ken Williams and Karel Roessing's score. *In the Company of*

Men is a powerful film destined to provoke controversy. More detractors than supporters will probably constitute the *vox populi* regarding this motion picture, but the true cineastes will be quick to acknowledge the startling originality of LaBute's accomplishment. ▼

In the Company of Men opens Friday, August 8 at the Embarcadero Cinemas.

Desperate measures

Guys get naked in 'The Full Monty'

by Gary Morris

Most buddy films collapse under the weight of their masculine pretensions, particularly when the "buddies" are ego-driven bores like Mel Gibson or Eddie Murphy. Peter Cattaneo's *The Full Monty* avoids the usual grown-up little boys playing cops 'n' robbers clichés in favor of a fantasy at once enchanting and subtly political. A group of aging, unemployed British steelworkers in the mining town of Sheffield decides to put on a male strip show to raise money. Unlike the Chippendales dancers who inspire them, these guys intend to take it all off. "The full monty" of the title is akin to "the whole enchilada" — in other words, total nudity.

The film opens with a 25-year-old travelogue touting Sheffield as a boom town. Of course, that was before Thatcherism, and we move quickly from dreams of full employment and abundant leisure to the grim present of abandoned warehouses and "job clubs." Gaz (Robert Carlyle, who played the



Hugo Speer as Guy and Steve Huison as Lomper in *The Full Monty*.

crazed Begbie in *Trainspotting*) is a jobless, ne'er-do-well father, hopelessly in arrears on his child support, he conceives the idea of putting on a strip show, corralling some of his dubious mates into his scheme.

No Chippendales boys, this is a motley collection of comically endearing but far-from-fetching guys. Among the would-be stars are Dave (Mark Addy), who is overweight and depressed; Lomper

(Steve Huison), whose body resembles a large pear; and Gerald (Tom Wilkinson), handsome but in his 50s and beginning to sag. Only the hunky Guy (Hugo Speer) seems well-equipped, in every sense, to fulfill the fantasies of Sheffield's housewives. Donna Summer's "Hot Stuff," Hot Chocolate's "I Believe in Miracles (You Sexy Thing)," and the movie *Flashdance* nudge the boys out of their clothes and into their g-strings.

The Full Monty skillfully mingles comedy and pathos in its story of economic castoffs trying to survive using only their wits and imagination. Best of all, it clarifies a crucial element that most buddy films leave deliberately vague. When the police raid one of their naked practice sessions, Lomper and Guy escape, running nude through the town. They wrap themselves in sheets and, laughing and out of breath, squeeze through the window of an apartment. Safe now, they suddenly turn and look at each other as if for the last time, and the audience immediately knows that these "buddies" are in love. For once, a gay romance is treated sweetly and delicately as a natural part of a larger canvas. ▼

The Full Monty opens Wednesday, August 13 at the Embarcadero Center Cinemas.

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The innocence of vampires

Olivier Assayas' 'Irma Vep'

by Erin Blackwell

Because *Irma Vep* was shown at San Francisco's straight International Film Festival instead of the queer one, readers may be unaware that Olivier Assayas' brilliant homage to French film doubles as a jazzy tribute to the lesbian vampire. The character Irma Vep (an anagram for vampire) is one of the great icons of French cinema, created by the actress Musidora in *Les Vampires*, a 1915 serial directed by Louis Feuillade.

The notorious cabaret artist-cum-cat burglar who crawled all over Paris in a skin-tight, head-to-toe black leotard was the inspiration for the American vamp

Cheung for a black latex bodysuit, a doctrinaire journalist opining his way through an interview with Cheung, Leaud boring his production manager with his vision of silent screen acting while guzzling a bottle of Coke.

No small feat, scenes feel improvised, off-balance, and off-the-cuff. At once warm and caustic (the image of French comedy), *Irma Vep* both sympathetically indulges and ruthlessly reveals its characters' illusions about themselves.

Only Cheung, playing not herself but the icon she has made of herself, is allowed to escape her own self-contradictions. Lithe and light-hearted, this exotic innocent strolls luminously through the film on little cat burglar feet,

At once warm and caustic, Irma Vep both sympathetically indulges and ruthlessly reveals its characters' illusions about themselves.

Theda Bara and such latter-day incarnations as Simone Simone and even Michelle Pfeiffer's Catwoman.

Assayas' film is an impressionistic sketch of the troubled production of a remake of *Les Vampires* by an over-the-hill auteur (played without irony by Jean-Pierre Leaud) starring Hong Kong legend Maggie Cheung (played without irony by Maggie Cheung). On this most superficial level, *Irma Vep* is a fast, funny portrait of life on the set, where a tired old intellectual's wet dream serves to confuse and demoralize the team hired to try to turn it into a movie.

Assayas' camera, relentlessly curious, pushes its way into the most intimate, most banal encounters: the costumer fitting

an avatar of Zen mind, beginner's mind.

The vampires are elsewhere and they are legion.

The film's most remarkable performance is Nathalie Richard as the costumer with a crush on Maggie. From her first appearance (in the above-mentioned fitting scene), the character Zoe disturbs the screen with her immediacy, intensity, and abandon.

With her dyed blonde hair in stringy knots, ragged nerves, bad teeth, smoking, scribbled notes, look of desperation, and yes, neediness, Zoe's the self-destructing dyke who went out of style when Gay Pride came in.

Lesbophobia's poster child, she's the one we'd like to be able to shove back into the closet. But there she is, in all her glory,



Maggie Cheung in *Irma Vep*.

fucked-up, vulnerable, and naive enough to believe she stands a chance with an internationally famous (straight) film star! In these days of political correctness, it's doubtful a U.S. filmmaker could pull off such a portrait: Zoe is in pain and there's no relief in sight. She's as familiar as the homeless person on the corner and just about as hard to watch.

As the King of the Undead, Jean-Pierre Leaud sucks Cheung's creative blood without ever laying a tooth on her. French cultural heritage, be it the cinematic past or intellectualism in general, is a virtual vampire also destroying fresh talent.

Another predator is the Hollywood film, variously character-

ized by the doctrinaire interviewer as the future of cinema and a mindless waste of time by the irreverent Zoe. French film is repeatedly denigrated as narcissistic, tired, out-of-touch, claims that the existence of *Irma Vep* contradicts.

The second way the film works, then, is as an extended meditation on the uses and abuses of film as practiced in Hong Kong, Hollywood, and Paris, yesterday and today.

There are even two films within the film. An extended fantasy in which Maggie Cheung enacts a jewel robbery in her hotel is a tribute to the Surrealists that pushes the film into the irrational. Similarly, the final sequence of

rushes spliced together and painted on by Leaud's character salutes the experimental film.

Irma Vep thus manages an amazing synthesis of genres even as it contemplates its own sources. Irma Vep is an action heroine, but the nature of that action is metaphysical, being a question of light and shadow and things that flicker in the brain. The title figure comes to stand for cinema itself in all its possibilities — possibilities too often ignored by megaproductions in search of a mass audience. ▼

Irma Vep plays August 8-14 at the Castro Theatre. Call 621-6120 for information.



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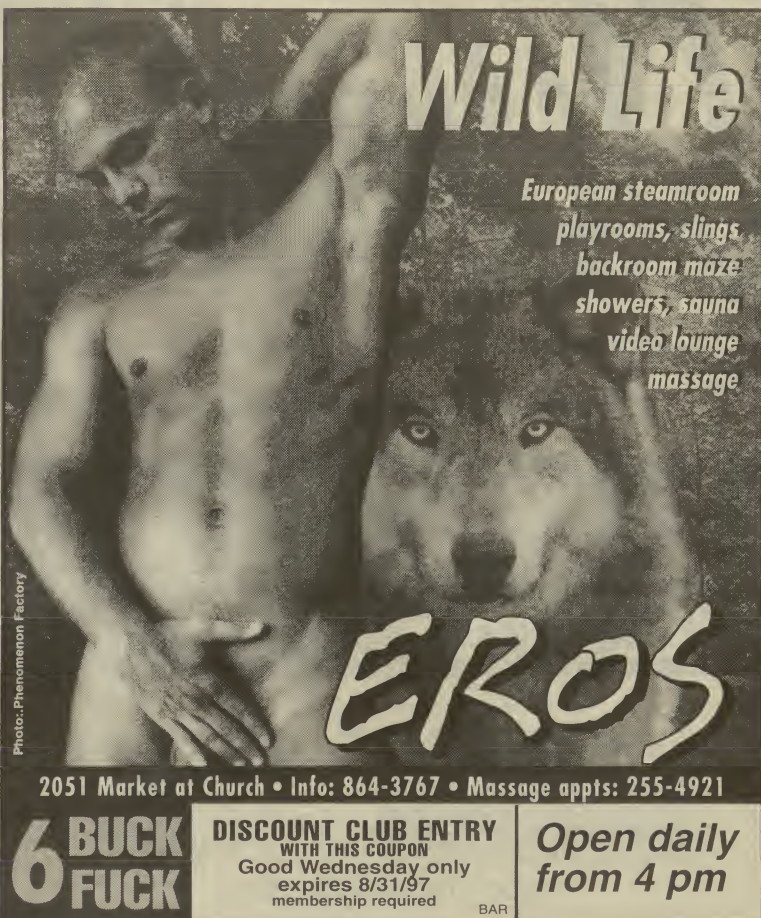
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Edward Albee

◀ Arts cover

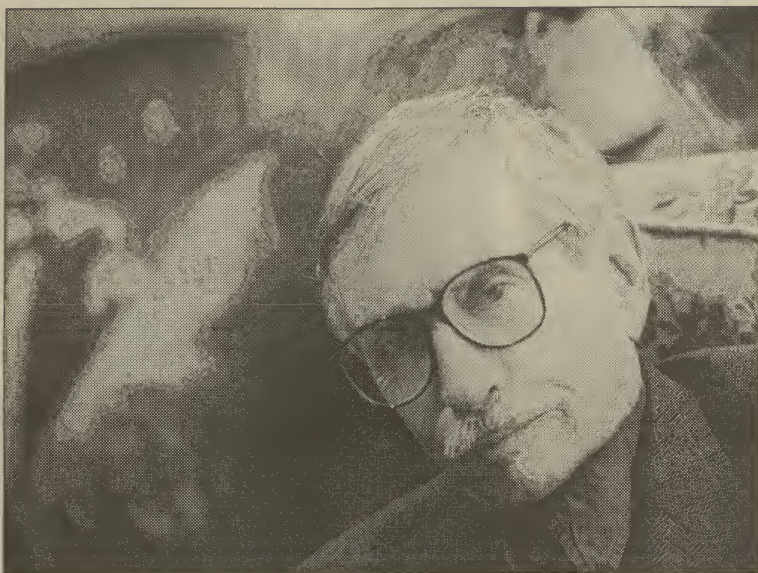
captivating, emotionally intricate (though only partially autobiographical) examination of an elderly woman at three stages of her life. Albee did not write the play until after his mother's death at age 92 in 1990.

B.A.R.: What finally drove you away from home at age 18 into the bohemia of Greenwich Village?

Edward Albee: I was out late in New York City one night with friends. I came home to Larchmont at five in the morning. The next morning at breakfast, the family was sitting there quite stony. "Of course we left the gate lights on for you so you could find your way home," my mother said. "Thank you, that was very nice of you," I said. Father just sat there looking into his grapefruit. "The gate lights kept your father awake much of the night." I, through my hangover, said very, very quietly, "Well, why didn't he get up and go downstairs and turn the fucking lights off?"

I obviously was not going to survive their environment or their hatreds. I wasn't what they bought. I couldn't tolerate their prejudices and their political fascism. If they'd been a wonderful family, I probably would have rebelled against everything that was good and turned into the monster that I rebelled against.

Several articles I've read said that you left home because your mother could not tolerate your homosexuality.



Edward Albee

I don't know where that came from or where that got started. [Probably] the same preposterous place where the notion that *Virginia Woolf* is really about two gay couples came from. People make things up. My mother would never discuss the matter with me my entire life. She hated gays. Hated them. Even after we started talking again after 20 years, she had the same attitude, so I didn't see any point in discussing the matter. She never forgave me for leaving. She probably never forgave me for being gay. I don't think she ever forgave me for lots

of things. How dare I turn my back on them? How dare I write plays critical of her society? When she died, she still had quite a bit of money left, and she just about left me out of the will. It didn't bother me. At that point, I had more money than she did.

You don't like the label gay playwright because you prefer to be known as a playwright who happens to be gay.

Yes, I made that distinction about five years ago at an OutWrite conference here in San Francisco.

There's a difference between a gay playwright and a playwright who happens to be gay. I'm opposed to the ghettoization of gay writing. Nobody goes around saying Arthur Miller, the straight playwright, but they do go around saying Edward Albee or Tony

not any more demanding as a subject than any of the others, and I don't find my identity in any of them, I find my identity in all of them.

Have you been criticized by the gay press for not being gay enough?

I used to be criticized an awful lot more by the straight press. How dare I, who was gay, write about straights? I think there still exists a terrible prejudice that colors the majority of criticism of work by gay people. I haven't read much criticism of my work from a gay perspective. I've read one or two things that say he's not being responsible to his gayness by not writing about gay themes. You don't have to pay too much attention to this guy writing about straight people because he's gay, or ignore him because he's not being responsible to his gayness. What can you do? I don't want to use a character as a mouthpiece, because then I start writing a harangue or something too didactic. I may write this play one day about a gay couple leading an absolutely normal life in which nothing untoward happens.

Would it be a love story the way *Virginia Woolf* is a love story?

Might well be. My most recent gay relationship is now going on 28

So many critics seem to exist to save people from theater that will challenge them. You've got to create an audience that wants to see a play by Samuel Beckett more than they want to see a chandelier crash. It's possible. I'm convinced that an audience can be educated.

Kushner, the gay playwrights. I was just warning people about ghettoization, but I made a lot of enemies and friends.

I don't think anybody's identity should exist in being gay. That's not identity. That's one of many identities. I belong to many minorities: I'm male, I'm white, I'm educated, I earn a living, I can read, I'm creative, and I'm gay. They're all true. One of these is

years. The first one was eight years. The second one was with Terrence McNally, and that one was only six years.

Terrence had a problem because people would say, "Let's go see Albee's protégé." I met him when he was at Columbia University. He was 18 or 19. I was 31 or 32, around the time of *Virginia Woolf*. We lived together and I

page 38 ▶

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Lighter than air

by Jeffery Kennedy

Pierre et Gilles: The Complete Works, 1976-1996, introductions by Bernard Marcade and Dan Cameron; Taschen, \$69.95

You may not know their names, but you have probably seen their work on postcards, calendars, T-shirts, and album covers. Sans surnames, gay French artists Pierre and Gilles met at a party in Paris during the mid-1970s. Both were artists working separately with photography, painting, and collage. Common interests brought them together. They fell in love and began creating commercial art in partnership under the *nom de plume* Pierre et Gilles. They gained recognition creating album covers for gay pop stars Marc Almond and Erasure and advertisements for style magazines such as *The Face*. Currently, museums around the world exhibit their work. This monograph reproduces nearly all of the pieces they created between 1976 and 1996.

Although Andy Warhol's *Interview* magazine covers heavily influenced their early work — idealized celebrity portraits with monochromatic backgrounds — Pierre et Gilles rapidly developed their own inimitable style. The artists manufacture scenarios using props and costumes in their Paris studio and retouch the resulting photographs with paint. The final products are stylized fantasies that bring to life their private obsessions with religious iconography, pop stars, and physique photography.

The first part of this monograph provides a history of these obsessions by reproducing the visual ephemera Pierre et Gilles have collected over the years: trading cards, kitschy Keane-style paintings, gay porn magazines, and portraits of themselves taken at photography studios around the world. The pop star whose image appears most frequently in this section is Sylvie Vartan. During the 1960s, Vartan's Americanized teen image camouflaged the tunelessness of her voice and the derivative nature of her record-

ings. Her style made her famous, and she was — and remains — 100 percent artifice. The same can be said for Pierre et Gilles' work.

Artifice frees Pierre et Gilles from the trappings of reality. In a documentary about the artists recently shown at the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, French actress Catherine Deneuve applauded the duo's ability to bring their subjects' secret alter-egos to light. At times, this metamorphosis through play-acting is charming. I particularly like the portraits of French pop superstar Serge Gainsbourg unshaven and dressed up as Santa Claus ("Gainsbarre," 1988), and a vulnerable-looking Deneuve wearing a white dress that appears to melt into the clouds surrounding her ("La Reine Blanche," 1991). These portraits are both witty and revealing.

Others, however, are annoying. Pierre et Gilles habitually dress pop stars up as sacred figures. Seeing English crooner Boy George impersonate Krishna ("Krishna," 1989) and German chanteuse Nina Hagen impersonate Kali ("Kali," 1989) would be offensive if it weren't so ridiculous. Same goes for portraits such as "Le Petit Chinois" (1991) and "Le Triangle Rose" (1993), which transform the meaning of politically-motivated violence into something plastic.

Pierre et Gilles often attempt to turn blank-faced pretty boys like gay porn stars Jeff Stryker and Aiden Shaw into icons through their portraiture. The results can be dazzling. The colorful props, costumes, and lighting display remarkable imagination and attention to detail, and the pair's unusual style heightens the work's visual intensity. But Pierre et Gilles lay the glamour on so thick they frequently conceal what makes portraits interesting to look at: the subject's personality. Scratch the glittering surface of most of what is reproduced here, and you'll discover there's nothing underneath. That's why perusing this monograph is as unsatisfying as listening to a Sylvie Vartan record. ▼



Shiva: Boy George (1989), by Pierre et Gilles.

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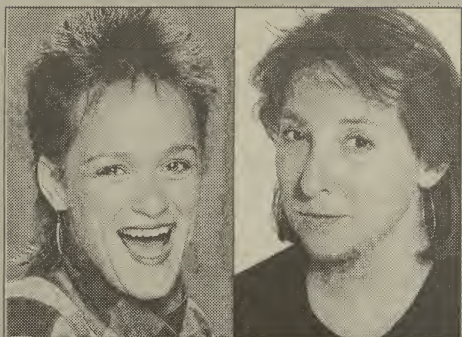
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INTERVIEW

COMEDY

Josie's hauls out comic gold



Throughout August, Josie's Cabaret will present *Gay Comedy Gold*, a series showcasing some of the brightest lights of San Francisco's queer comedy scene. Things kick off with **Sabrina Matthews** (through August 19), who will reveal the pleasures of being a "flannel lesbian" in a world where women are expected to don a dress for just about every event; next up is **Marilyn Pittman** (through August 17), who will bring her razor-sharp wit to bear on such '90s topics as media, high-tech, love, sex, and politics; SF favorite **Marga Gomez** returns to Josie's August 20 with an off-new show, *Hung Like A Fly*, in which the celebrated New York-born comedian jokes about life as a bachelor, her experience in LA's movie world, and her admiration of Farah Fawcett's artwork. *Hung Like A Fly* runs through August 31. On Monday, August 25, **Suzy Berger** emcees Gay Comedy Open Mic (8 p.m.), two hours of raw, up-and-coming comedic talent. Other comedians featured in *Gay Comedy Gold* include: **Dan Rothenberg**, **David Mills**, **Scott Capurro**, **Steve Moore**, **Bridgette Swartz**, and **Jean Colfer**. For more information about the shows, call 861-7933. Josie's is at 3583 16th St. ▼



Michael Learned, Marian Seldes, and Christina Rouner in Edward Albee's *Three Tall Women*.

Edward Albee

◀ page 36

imagine — I hope — I had some useful influence on him. I knew a little bit more about playwrighting than he did. The protégé lab must have hurt Terrence. We're still friends, but we don't talk about each other's work. It's curious that we both know we're not talking about each other's work. We gossip about other people's work. Terrence tends to be a little cagier about his response to other people's work than I do. I'm afraid I shoot my mouth off a lot. As one of the characters in *Three Tall Women* says, "The trouble with lying is that you have to remember the lies." Communication is possible and people are capable of change. Any writer who

keeps writing is nothing but an optimist. The most pessimistic writer I ever knew was Sam Beckett, but Sam kept on writing because there was a possibility of communication. No writer is a pessimist who keeps on writing.

So all writing is corrective and meant to change people?

Yes. People should pay more attention to how they're living their lives, whether they're living them fully, questioning their values. If not, they should start to think a little differently about their lives. The terrible thing is that people get to the end of their lives and realize they haven't lived. Or they're full of regret for things not done or things unchangeable, and that's terrible. I don't want people to be that way. I want everybody to live

on the precipice. I want everybody to develop an awareness of immortality.

Ideally, what should the experience of a play be like?

You shouldn't be the same person you were when you went in. That only happens when you allow it to. People turn their backs on a lot of serious work because they don't want that to happen to them.

Does film, like theater, have the power to send a person out of the theater a little bit different from when they went in?

I think the commercial pressure not to do that is even greater than it is in theater. Escapism and grotesque violence seem to be the money-making trends now. I've not been interested in writing for film because the writer has no control. I'm afraid I have the arrogance of wanting things my way. [Producer] Ernest Lehman got a screenwriting credit for *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* because he added two lines: "Let's go to the road house" and "Let's come back from the road house." I've heard apocryphal stories that there actually was a screenplay written but discarded. In this version, and this is probably not true, the non-existent child is translated into a deeply retarded child that George and Martha keep upstairs. I hope that was a joke. But knowing Hollywood, it might not be.

How do you feel about theater critics and the state of American theater?

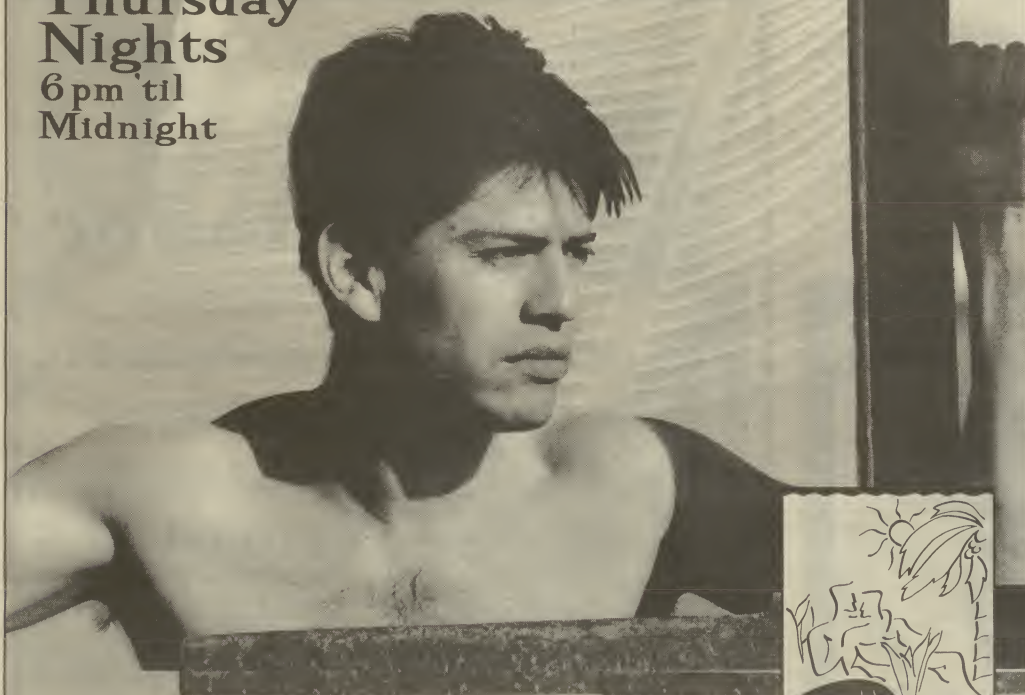
The critics who like my work are bright and honorable. The critics who don't are assholes. We all feel that way, but I'm the only one willing to admit it. So many critics seem to exist to save people from theater that will challenge them. You've got to create an audience that wants to see a play by Samuel Beckett more than they want to see a chandelier crash. It's possible. I'm convinced that an audience can be educated. If someone gave me several hundred million dollars and let me fill all the theaters in New York over a ten-year period with only the very best plays, past and present, in five or ten years, the taste of the Broadway-going audience would be transformed. If that doesn't happen (he laughs), we somehow have to find critics who can at least tell the difference between that which is useful and that which is merely decorative. ▼

Three Tall Women continues at the Herbst Theatre. Call 776-1999 for information.

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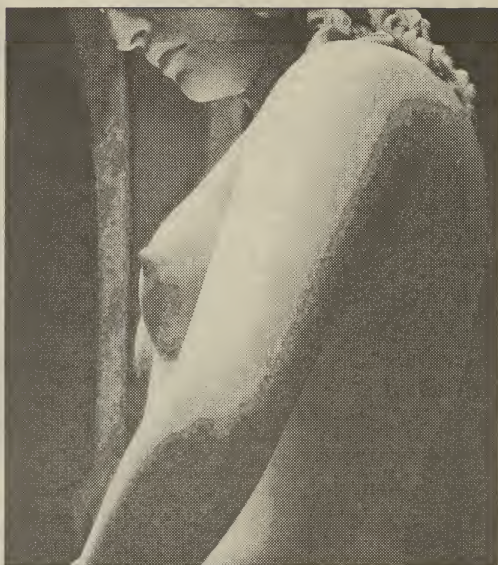
Breasts 1A

by Deborah Peifer

A History of the Breast by Marilyn Yalom; Knopf, \$29.95

Is there a female body part that evokes more powerful emotion than the breast? Whether it's as a source of food or erotic pleasure, the breast is a subject whose time has come. In her extraordinarily interesting history, Marilyn Yalom looks at the ways in which breasts have been valorized and demonized from prehistory to the present. "Though certain features of breasts seem to be eternal," Yalom asserts, "such as their ability to produce milk and their vulnerability to disease, the meanings we attach to breasts are subject to considerable variation. ... We can pinpoint specific moments when dramatic changes in breast lore took place — for example, when the nursing Madonna appeared in the fourteenth century, and when the political breast emerged in the eighteenth century."

The political breast had to do with breast-feeding, and the tendency of upper-class women, owing to their husbands' insistence that they not nurse and spoil the shape of their breasts, to use the services of wet nurses to feed their babies. Fearing that the base morals of the lower classes would be imbibed along with the milk, scientists urged rich women to suckle their own children. Enter Carolus Linnaeus, a fervent proponent of upper-class nursing who "coined the term Mammalia from the Latin *mammae* (milk-secreting organs) to distinguish suckling animals from all other creatures." Clearly, if the presence or absence of the breast defined us, women owed it to their biological Class as well as their social class to use those mammaries. Remember high school biology? You experienced shock when you learned that bats, whales, and people all belonged to the same



"A woman's place in the world was tied directly to the ways in which her breasts were defined."

Class: Mammalia. Now you know why breasts that gave milk were considered the defining characteristic.

A History of the Breast is filled with weirdly interesting information like that, but Yalom has a much more serious and scholarly agenda. She explores the ways in which, at least until the 20th century, men have defined the breast's function, its optimal shape, and whether it should be covered or exposed. As Yalom explains, women's place in the world was tied directly to the ways in which her breasts were defined. In one infuriating example, she refers to Jean-Jacques Rousseau's view of the world: "Men, he suggested, were given minds for thinking, and women breasts for suckling."

Yalom's text is eminently read-

able, with more humor than one would expect in a scholarly work. Her take on Freud, which includes a breast-envy parody of penis envy, is a pleasure to read. Illustrated with more paintings, photos, and sculptures of breasts than you might have imagined existed, *A History of the Breast* is a serious and entertaining look at the breast in its myriad configurations. ▼

CABARET

Princess of politesse joins 'Cabaret Castro'



Two-time presidential candidate Joan Jett Blakk (above) will bring her witty and sophisticated talk show *Late Night with Joan Jett Blakk* to *Cabaret Castro* on Saturday, August 9 at 10 p.m. *Cabaret* organizers say Joan and co-host Sister Roma have agreed to do the show monthly as part of *Cabaret Castro*.

Late Night with Joan Jett Blakk will feature fun and provocative guests, bizarre news items, and unusual, sure-to-entertain antics. Says Joan, who moonlights as a columnist for *Oblivion* magazine and is familiar to queer San Francisco as the literary hostess of *A Different Light Bookstore*, "I like to think of myself as a cross between Mort Sahl and Oprah Winfrey."

If you'd like to see that improbable mix in action, show up Saturday at MCC Church, 150 Eureka Street. Tickets are \$5-\$10 sliding scale, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. For more information and reservations, call (415) 552-6031. *Cabaret Castro* is sponsored by *A Different Light Bookstore*, *Q-San Francisco*, and MCC Church. ▼

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Late summer previews

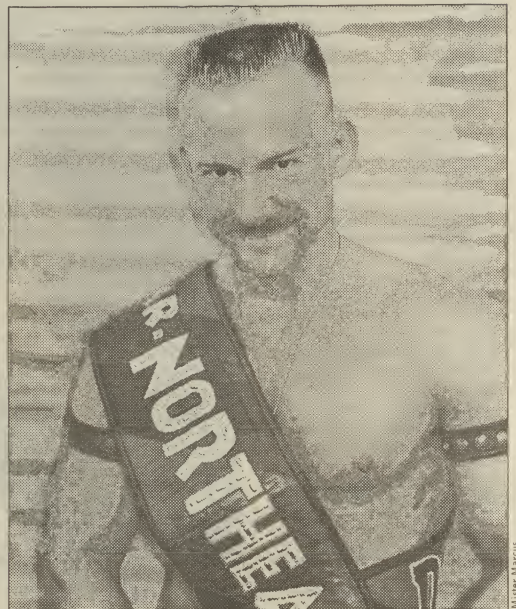
by Mister Marcus

Here it is August already. Major bike runs and leather contests have taken place, and it's a whole new cast that will be vying next year for IML and IMsL. Here on the home front, we're still looking for Mr. Northern California Drummer and Drummer Boy. We have winners from Sacramento, Alameda County and San Francisco, but no word yet on whether San Jose will have a contestant this year. Are you reading this, Greg and Graylin?

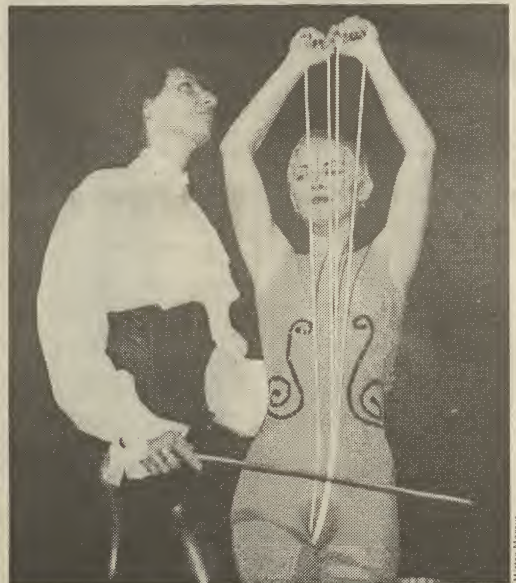
Next month, SF Leather Daddy's Boy Joey Faria will pass his sash, and from what I hear, there's going to be some very, very tough competition this year for that honor. Lots of the boys in our midst are just "wild" about SF Leather Daddy Patrick Batt and want to share their year with him! Of course, depending on who you talk to, we will also be having either a Ms. SF Leather or Ms. Golden Gate Leather - but no dates have been firmed up as of this column.

The final "biggie" is International Mr. Drummer on Saturday, Sept. 27. Robert Davolt came into town vowing that this would be "the best Drummer contest ever." However, at least at this point, there is no venue! They dicked around over at Desmondus Inc. so long that they failed to meet deadlines for a host hotel. No judges are in place, and no poster is out. While all the other leather event producers had their fliers and posters in the IML package of goodies in Chicago, Drummer failed there, too.

True, the regional contests are in progress, and there will be a final contest (ostensibly on Sept. 27), but exactly where is anybody's guess. In addition, no "theme" has been announced for this year's soiree. Rumor has it that Cara Hanes will produce the show, but so far that tidbit is just that - a rumor. I sure hope it all comes off. But rest assured, the Drummer contestants' basket auction, which goes to the winner's travel fund, will take place at the SF-Eagle on Wednesday, Sept. 24, and Irwin Kane and Audrey Joseph are hard at work on the Fetish & Fantasy Ball at Club Townsend on Friday, Sept. 26. You just know that will be a stel-



Mr. Northeast Drummer '97 Will Clark in town for the Dore Alley Street Fair turned heads wherever he went.



Ms. San Diego Leather Bobbi Lei d'Courage wrecked the IMsL audience with her "cello playing" fantasy.

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Thursday, Aug. 7

Free and anonymous HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison courtesy of Blow Buddies and AIDS Health Project, 2030-2230.

Saturday, Aug. 9

Bike christening at the Eagle, 1500-1800. Tomorrow is the deadline to register your bike's name for the free plaque. You can do that by calling 626-0880 or fax 626-6509.

Leathernecks' monthly party (\$12) by invitation only. Workshop by The Ring at 1830, and no one admitted late. Party doors open 2100-2230 only. This event benefits Transitions, a vital agency for the terminally ill.

Mr./Ms. Oregon State Leather contest at the Embers bar in Portland tonight. Also Mr. Florida Drummer contest in Fort Lauderdale. Mr. Sacramento Drummer Mike Butler fundraiser at The Bolt in the capital at 2100. Benefits Lambda Letters Project.

Beer bust/hot dog sale, 1500-1900, to benefit HIV Programming at MCC/SF. No prices or other details furnished.

Sunday, Aug. 10

Bears of SF annual "Sunday in the Park III" on Angel Island. Also, farewell party and show for Dowager Empress Flame at Marlena's, 1600-2300 (a marathon!).

Cycle Runners MC beer bust at the SF-Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8, food, entertainment and special raffle.

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. Attend this "floody" affair. Call 863-HEAD.

Free STD checkups at 933 Harrison, courtesy of Blow Buddies and SF Health Dept., upstairs, 2000-2200. Get a free pass to Blow Buddies!

Underwear party at Daddy's, 2100 to closing, with cheap beer and shots for those appropriately undressed.

Thursday, Aug. 14

Stompers Boot Night at the SF-Eagle. Wear Stompers T-shirt and get a free pair of gloves. Free bootshines by "Driller"! Get lucky and win a pair of high-shine Chippewas via the special raffle!

Big Basket contest at The Edge. Win \$100, photo session with Balducci, and kisses from the Old Bag.

Weekend, Aug. 15-17

Constantines MC 30th anniversary weekend bike run, "Gold Diggers," with \$120 fee (at this late date) at a great site in Nevada City, Calif.

The 1997 International Mr. Fantasy Contest weekend at Omaha's Club Max, with a \$30 weekend fee. Host hotel: Radisson Redick. Call 402/342-1500 for details.

lar affair you won't want to miss!

The Leather Pride Walk from Daddy's in the Disastro to the SF-Eagle will take place on Sunday, Sept. 21, at a time yet to be announced. So start getting your pledges together now! And, of course, that same day, the Bare Chest Calendar (in color this year and photographed by Jim Wigler) makes its debut, and half of the dozen winners will be auctioned off for dinner dates at the Eagle.

And speaking of travel funds, rumblings all over the country began when word got out that the new IMSL, Genelle E. Moore, has only received \$1000 of the money raised for her perambulations. We certainly don't want the lovely Genelle to have to go through what Jill Carter had to go through last year. Tsk, tsk. Doesn't Amy Marie Meek know better by now? Or is yet another "scandal" brewing?

Incidentally, those of you who were so concerned about the titleholder who didn't deliver the fundraising money for IML Larry Everett can now relax. The money has been sent to Mr. Everett, and all is well with the world. I'd hate to be 86'd from a certain Los Angeles leather bar for reporting facts! Goodness!

A small but enthusiastic crowd turned out for the Mr. Ebony Leather contest at 1015 Folsom on Sunday, July 27, after the Dore Alley Street Fair. I



Pets and pulchritude at the Dore Alley Fair; they both had a good time!

couldn't make it, but despite the lack of an official press release, I learned there were five contestants. The winner, who will com-

pete at IML in Chicago next May, was Daviën Nelson. Just maybe I'll have a photo soon! Pretty please! ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



Eric Flom as Billy Budd

Buddies

Herman Melville's classic novella *Billy Budd* has unmistakable intimations of homoeroticism, a facet not unknown to composer Benjamin Britten, who fashioned the lead role in his *Billy Budd* opera for his main squeeze, the tenor Peter Pears, nor to novelist E.M. Forster, who wrote the libretto. Whether the text's homo angle will figure, subliminally or overtly, in Venture Theatre's theatrical adaptation of the story, playing aboard the historic vessel *C.A. Thayer*, is anybody's guess, but we guess not. Despite the subtext, despite the all-male cast, despite the well-known and well-documented proclivities of sailors, some little seabird tells us that the National Maritime Museum Association and SF Maritime National Historical Park are not likely to chart waters unfriendly to "family values."

And yet, this publicity still photo gives us reason to hope that the adventuresome thespians impersonating 18th-century British seamen might at the very least show some flesh, haul some line, or otherwise butch it up. The play is to be staged environmentally, so that the audience will follow the actors all around the *C.A. Thayer*, a vintage sailing ship docked at the Hyde Street Pier. Nothing like prancing around a ship's hold after some navy blues to stir up a drama, we're sure some of our readers will agree.

Melville tells the tale of naive young seafood Budd's coming aboard the *H.M.S. Indomitable* at sea in August 1797, too rosy, too androgynous, and the masculine lessons in store for him between port and starboard. The villain Claggart is just another repressed homosexual. As Morrissey has been heard to croon, "Oh Billy Budd, do you think that you could...?" ▼

Billy Budd, a theatrical adaptation of Melville's classic story by Louis O. Cox and Robert Chapman, plays Thurs.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 7 p.m. through August 31. For more information, call 929-0202 x58.

Eri

At What Moment...

"Did She Become, Freely and Willingly, the Mother of God?" dance work by Patricia Reedy. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30pm. \$14-18. Cowell Theatre, Bldg. A, Fort Mason. 621-7797.

Cabaret Castro

Excerpts from *Up Jumped Springtime*. \$5-10. 8pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 552-6031.

Co-ed Prison Sluts

Pipedream Productions' musical comedy returns. Fri. & Sat. at 11pm thru summer. \$15. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Cold Fish

The LAB/Projekt Group-USA dances to choreographer Enrico Labayen's *Cold Fish and Other Works*. \$10, \$15. Thurs.-Sun. at 8:30 pm thru 8/10. Brady Street Dance Center, 60 Brady. 864-5852.

Cyberqueer

Tom Jacobson's sexy cyberspace adventure that takes audience into 3-D chat room. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 8/31. Call for price. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Daniel Kallok

Singer/songwriter in *My Mouth and Welcome to It*. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Dear Diva

Gay advice columnist performs. Fri. thru 8/29. \$5. 8pm. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

En Drag

Female impersonators revue, hosted by Chablis and Shondra. 9, 10, 11:30pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Heart, Soul & Voice

Julie Parks presents singer showcase. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. Call for prices. Plush Room, York Hotel, 940 Sutter. 885-2800.

High Spirits

42nd Street Moon presents concert version of Noel Coward's comedy *Blithe Spirit*. Wed.-Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 8/24. \$15.50-18.50. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Kevin Hill

Exhibit of photographs ends today. ESP, 305 Valencia. 252-8191.

Laughing Wild

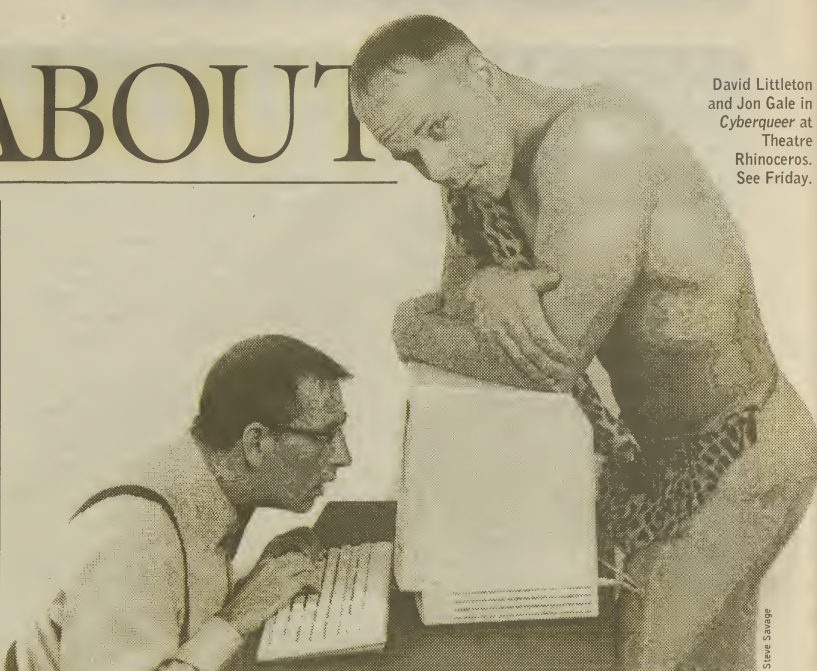
The Sea Theatre presents Christopher Durang's comedy. Fri. & Sat. at 10pm, Sun. at 9pm thru 8/17. \$12. Shelton Theatre, 533 Sutter. 433-7875.

Lyn Denison

Australian author reads from new lesbian romance, *Dream Lover*, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

The Resistible

Rise of Arturo Ui
The Unconditional Theatre's gender-bending premiere of the Bertolt Brecht satire. Mon., Fri. and Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 8/16. \$12-\$15. Intersection for the Arts, 466 Valencia. 666-0786.



David Littleton and Jon Gale in *Cyberqueer* at Theatre Rhinoceros. See Friday.

Sabrina Matthews

"Flannel lesbian" kicks off Josie's Gay Comedy Gold series, with Dan Rothenberg. Tues.-Sun. at 8pm, Fri.-Sat. at 10pm thru 8/10. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Signifying Nothing

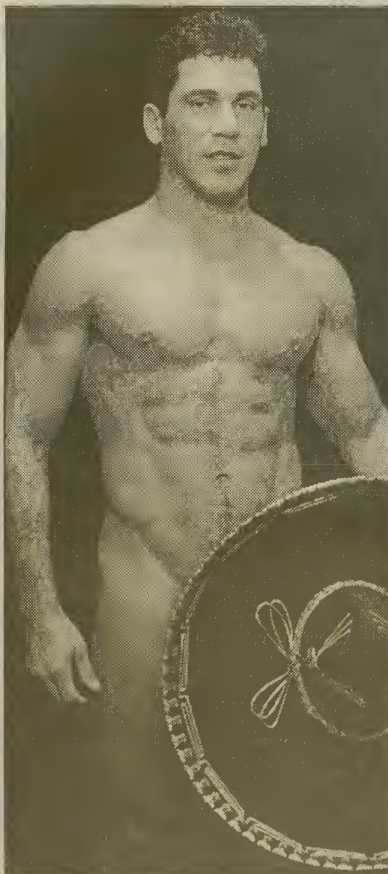
Paintings and sculpture by Christopher Geron, thru 8/22. Space 743, 743 Harrison. 777-8242.

SwitchStance

Multimedia celebration of SF surfing & skateboarding, thru 8/30. SF Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness. 554-6080.

Telling Stories

Photographer Michael Johnstone's exhibition, thru 8/31.



Puerto Vallarta stripper Juan is one of the attractions when Futura celebrates its third birthday Saturday night.

Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Visual Aid's 4th Annual

Exhibition by 32 artists, incl. Michael Johnstone, Marcos Reyes, Barbara Cooper, thru 8/9. The Lab, 2948 16th St. 777-8242.

Sat

Anarchism

Aphroditic freedom, Senior Unlimited Nudes discussion, free. 2pm. Rainbow flag, Baker Beach.

Bake Sale

Fifth Floor company as the

Branch Davidians. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 8/16. \$14. Somar Theatre, 934 Brannan. 552-5290.

Feliz Cumpleaños

Latino dance club Futura's 3rd birthday party. \$10. 10pm-3am. 174 King. 665-6715.

Fiesta-a-Luau

Grupo Socio Cultural Hispano holds potluck with Hawaiian theme. Call for details. 863-7087.

India:

"A Celebration!" 5 exhibitions in honor of 50th yr. of Indian independence. Thru 9/28. \$7. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Isis Rodriguez

"My Life as a Comic Stripper," one-person exhibition, ends today. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Kielbasa

Matthew Worszlo's *Kielbasa, Queen of Poland 2: The Musical*. Sat. thru 8/30. 8:30pm. \$5. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-1441.

Late Night with Joan Jett Blakk

Local talk show, co-host Sister Roma. \$5-10. 10pm. Cabaret Castro, MCC, 150 Eureka. 552-6031.

Leather and Lace

Open drag show hosted by Tiger Lily. No cover, 2 drink min/m. 10pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Ralph Nader

Is Missing!
Charlie Varon's new comedy for four actors. Wed.-Sun. extended thru 8/10. Call for times, prices. Tonight at 8:30pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

Strange Cargo

Wayne Banks' photography exhibition at A Different Light Bookstore, thru 8/31. 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Sun

Alex Davis

Solo piano recital, all Chopin. \$5. 5pm. Star Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

Chanticleer

Male vocal ensemble presents *Eternal Light: The Ockeghem Requiem* and Gregorian

Chant. 8/10 & 16 at 8pm. \$19-26. St. Dominic's, Bush & Steiner. 392-4400.

Holly Near, Ronnie Gilbert

Legendary performers in rare club appearance. \$14.50-15.50. 8pm. Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison, Berkeley. (510) 548-1761.

Jane Fitcher

Reads from *Dream Lover*, free. 3:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Mon

Brown Boyz

Rap group for gay Latinos ages 15-25. 6:30pm. Proyect ContraSida por Vida, 2973 16th St. 864-7278.

David King

Black and white photography exhibit, "Solo: A View of the American West," thru 9/1. Sweet Inspiration, 2239 Market. 621-8664.

Gary Wu

Activist shows video of gays and lesbians in Beijing, free. 7pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. (510) 531-4942.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Up-and-coming comic talent, aspiring performers sign up by phone. MC Suzy Berger. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

On the Rim

Artists combining Eastern & Western traditions, incl. Bruce Connor, Squeak Carnwath, Raymond Saunders. Mon.-Fri. thru 8/15. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery.

Raised by Wolves:

"Photographs and Documents of Runaways by Jim Goldberg" exhibit, thru 9/21. SF-MOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Tues

Bay Area Now

Summer multidisciplinary arts fest & exhibition, 37 local artists. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission, thru Sept. 7. 978-ARTS.

Candy Darling

"Always a Woman," exhibition on the life of transgender



Todd Courage and Enrico Labayan dance in *Cold Fish* at Brady Street Dance Center. See Friday.

Factory star. Tues.-Sat. thru 8/23. Braunstein/Quay Gallery, 250 Sutter. 392-5532.

Herb Greene

Photos of "San Francisco Rock 1960s," thru 9/6. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

Marilyn Pittman

Popular lesbian comic in Gay Comedy Gold series, with David Mills. Tues.-Sun. at 8pm, Fri. & Sat. also at 10pm thru 8/17. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Master Class

Faye Dunaway stars as Maria Callas in Terrence McNally's Tony Award-winning play. Tues.-Sun. thru 8/24, call for times. \$17-47. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Three Tall Women

Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning play stars Michael Learned, Christina Rouner, Marian Seldes. Call for times and dates. \$20-50. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 776-1999.

Uri Tzaiq

"New video work and objects" by artist Uri Tzaiq, thru 8/30. Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne. 546-0158.

Wed 13

Fantastic Creatures:

"Demons, Dragons, Mermaids, and Monsters from the Permanent Collection," thru 3/29/98. \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0404.

Glitter

Dance club: glam, funk, 70s music. Wed., 9pm-2am. No cover. CW Saloon, 911 Folsom.

SF Games

Weekly board and card game group, free. 7:30pm. Muddy's Coffeehouse, 1304 Valencia. 679-3680.

Single Room Occupancy

Ali Sant and Susan Schwartzberg's installation, with Neil Grimmer's "The Aesthetics of Obsolescence," thru 9/6. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom. 626-5416.

Spirit of Ancient Peru

"Treasures from the Museo Arqueológico Rafael Larco Herrera," Peruvian art exhibition. Wed.-Sun. thru 8/31. \$9.50. de Young Mem'l Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

12 Artists

"From Visual Aid" exhibit, reception today, 5pm. Thru 9/13. McKesson Plaza Bldg., 1 Post. 777-8242.

Visions of Modernity:

"Photographs from the Peruvian Andes 1900-1930" exhibition. Thru 8/24. \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0404.

Thur 14

Along for the Ride

Isaac Ho's new play concerns the changes wrought among four friends when a stranger enters their midst. \$10. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 8/16. Exit Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 773-9991.

Billy Budd

Venture Theatre presents adaptation of Melville's classic nautical tale, aboard C.A. Thayer. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 8/31. \$25. SF Maritime Nat'l Hist. Park, Hyde St. Pier. 929-0202 x58.

Direct From Nature:

"The Oil Paintings of Thomas Hill," 19th-century landscape artist. Tues.-Sat. thru 8/16. \$3. California Historical So-

ciety, 678 Mission. 357-1848.

Elana Dykewomon

Reads from *Beyond the Pale*, free. 7:30pm. Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 486-0698.

In Search of the Greatest American Hot Dog

Paul Laudenslager and J.J. White comedy that promises to launch "an all-out assault on bad theatre." \$10. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 8/30. Bindlestiff Studio, 185 6th St. 974-1167.

It's Raining (Wo/men):

"In relation to lesbian and gay culture, summer '97" art exhibit, thru 8/16. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

Nude Men

Vance Martin's *Nude Men*, a show of recently uncovered male nudes by photographer George Platt Lynes. Thru 8/30. Stephen Wirtz Gallery, 49 Geary. 433-6879.

Shear Madness

Whodunit set in unisex hair-styling salon. Tues.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$28-32. Mason Street Theatre, 430 Mason. 982-5463.

Skin Deep

Third annual all-media exhibit of selected nudes. Tues.-Sat. thru 8/31. Bridge Gallery, 689 Bryant. 673-3080.

Word for Word

4th anniversary festival: performances from short stories by Virginia Woolf, Julia Alvarez. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 8/31. \$15. Magic Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
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Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials



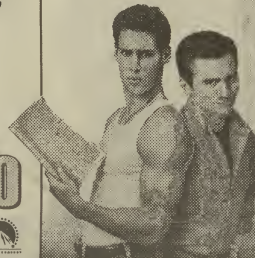
Chicken Stroganoff with marsala wine, mushrooms & sour cream served over fettucini 8.75
Grilled Chicken Breast with rosemary & garlic marinade, served on a bed of fettucini with creamy basil pesto 8.95
Grilled 12-oz Choice N.Y. Steak with bearnaise sauce, onion rings and french fries or mashed potatoes 11.95
King Salmon grilled or poached with white wine-lemon-dill sauce, vegetables & chef's rice or mashed potatoes 9.75
PRIME RIB au jus with baked potato and creamy horseradish 11.95

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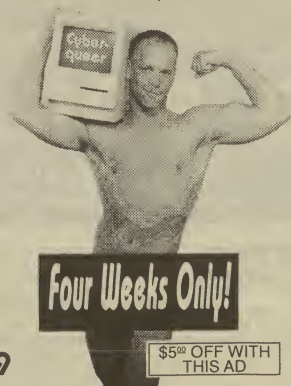
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Directed by
Neal Shorstein

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Thurs-Sat at 8:00

Sun at 7:00

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THIS AD

Photographs by David King in *Solo: A View of the American West* at Sweet Inspiration. See Monday.



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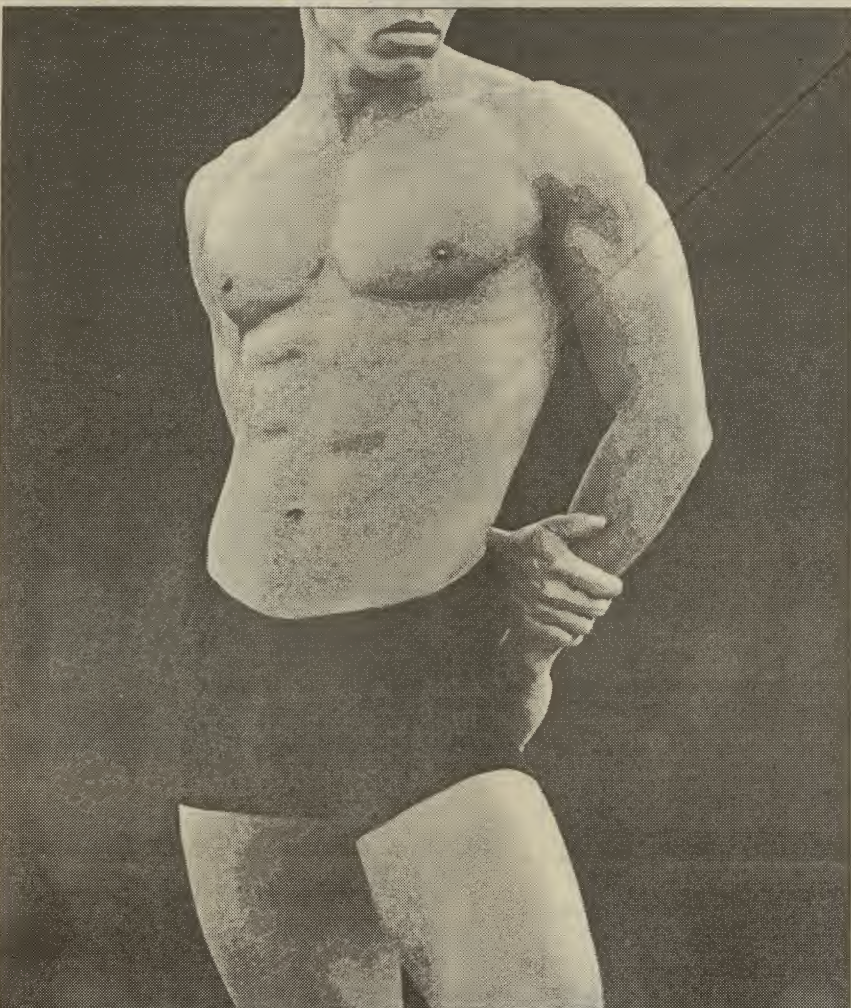


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PARTING GLANCES

Mission Thrift Shops Sat. 7/12
You: cute Asian, bought swim fins at Thrift town. Said hi, smiled at community Thrift. Me: white, goatee, black hair. I like your style. Wanna shop together? S 7204.

Anthony B. @ Pleasuredome
Gay Pride night. You're from Humboldt, I'm still in Guerneville. Sorry couldn't finish conversation. Still want to keep in touch. Call me. Tom. S 7205.

Pride Photographer
We were kissing, you snapped our picture and said "classic." You moved on before we could ask how to reach you. We'd love a photo. Please call. Thanks. S 7206.

Phil Attention Please
I placed my recent ad "Looking men of all colors & sex." I retrieved your message in my voice mail, but accidentally hit wrong keys & lost your msg. Please leave another message. S 7307.

Andy Yuba River Sunday July 13
You lent me your snorkel and mask. I would like to see you again. John. S 7208.

Opera At Yerba Buena
Sunday 7/20. Me: sitting with friends, beard, gray shirt. You: mustache, white T-shirt. Kept smiling, very cute. Coffee? S 7304.

Nr Montgomery Subway Station
Thursday, July 18, 2:30. You asked if you could get a light from me. I was literally rendered speechless by your beauty. Please give me another chance. S 7301.

Mike
We met GGP, Tue. 6/10 about 3:30. You, teacher, short on time, other half. Need your e-mail. Get together? Can't call? S 7202.

Bus Stop @ McAllister/Larkin
Thurs. 7/10, 9 PM. You: waiting @ bus stop. I was walking my dog. I waved good-bye and wished I would have let you pet my dog. Let's introduce ourselves correctly. S 7203.

Chorus Concert Sat. 7/12
Intermission downstairs. You: dark hair/complexion, glasses, sports jacket, in line for RR. Me: holding/buzz cut, muscular, multi-color shirt, exiting RR. Couldn't stop glancing at each other. Please call. S 7201.

Greg From San Diego
We met on Sun 7/13 at the Lone Star. We closed the bar, I went out, you stayed in. Would like to see you again, Bryan. S 7207.

GBM Bright Red Hair On Castro
I saw you talking to friend on Sunday, 7/6/97 to 7/13/97. Me: GWM, gray hair, glasses, leather jacket, smiled at you call? S 7302.

Stewey Church/Market 7/19 5PM
You green T & shorts, beautiful blue eyes, adorable cereal indecision. Me: white v-neck, bald, beard. We smiled tentatively. Shopping cart for one? My basket was. Please call for serious dinner. S 7303.

Specialties Sandwich Shop Boy
On Kearny. Saw you on Caltrain with friend. I sat across from you, upper level. Me: shy, lonely older man. Would like to know you. Let's meet, if you like older guys. Please respond. S 7209.

"Mighty Warrior" Visiting SF
Met at party—you loved my drumming. Then at "Hole in the Wall."—you asked me help message someone, call me "Mighty Warrior," said you lived 1/5 hours outside SF. S 7305.

Sweet Insp'n Sat 7/19 9:30AM
You with book and orange highlighter. I was at the window table with friends—green shirt, glasses, staring at you. Those arms and blue eyes! Wow! Call or say hi any Saturday. S 7306.

Jumin' Java Tuesday 7/22 9AM
You were reading your textbook, white T-shirt, beautiful dark eyes. I sat across from you reading my newspaper, button-down shirt. We exchanged glances as I left. Let's talk. S 7401.

Giants Game Vs. Philly 7/23
You: lover box MVP, section 5, dreads, goatee, black tank top, camouflage shorts, backpack seated with buzz cut while guy...crused you several times, want to meet you. S 7402.

Castro Used Bk Store 7/26 Sat
You: AM wearing green Univ. sweat shirt, glasses, good looking. Me: WM, mature, glasses, shorts with friend, could not say hello. Think you are handsome—Call— S 7403.

Club Universe, Saturday 7/26
You: black shirt, dark hair, standing with friends between main bar and entrance. Me: at bar, blond, glasses, slender, blue shirt, jeans. Exchanged stares. Wished we'd met. How about dinner? S 7404.

7/26 B. Buddies About Midnight
Both wearing leather vests. You: trim beard, went into front rooms were alone. Would like to see you again. Please call, A. S 7405.

Video Control 7/27 8pm
You: wearing all black, looking for a video but didn't find one. Me: with a friend, tried to talk to you but was interrupted. We exchanged "hello's" twice. Let's talk. S 7406.

Red Honda Shadow Motorcycle
Bini helmet, goatee, orange hairy left. Woo! Noticed you leaving Pasquas. I'm very handsome GWM. I'm very nice guy into gym, motorcycles. How about lunch? S 7407.

Dark Hair/Mustache Haight Bus
I got on daily 5:10 at Van Ness, off at Baker, light hair, mustache, patch goatee, suit, black bag. We smile. Are we both shy? Let's talk. S 7408.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Sonoma County Blue Collar Guy
Seeks other hot masculine types! I'm 39, 6', 170#, HIV+, versatile bottom with crewcut, goatee & glasses. I enjoy life, good food, comedy & ears. Facial hair, good kisser & honesty are pluses. S 7210.

Scene Stealer
Want good times, caring, romance, adventure, soul-buddy? SGWM original good-looking, handsome, in-shape, healthy, 5'11", tall, 180#. Seeks similar SGWM under 39, good-looking with great smile, big heart. Dating for LTR. S 7211.

HIV+ Quality Lover & Friend
Attractive, healthy, GWM, in 40's, ISO lover/friend. Me: easy going, responsible, romantic, is able to share emotional/physical intimacy, versatile, 5'10", 157#, brigit, clean shaven. You: similar, 35-50. S 7212.

Looking For Mr. Right
Attractive, 37 yo, Filipino, 5'10", 160#, HIV+, not into games, ISO GWM or Latin, 35-45, for a sincere and honest relationship. S 7213.

Nice Guy Seeks Same
Basic attractive HIV+ top, 5'8", 135#, 45, br/hazel, mustache, looking for stocky, mostly oral, HIV+ bottom, 35-45. S 7214.

GWM Seeking GBM
Atr. GWM, 44, 5'11", 185#, S/P hr, clean-shaven, masc., HIV-, seeking atr. GBM, 30-50, HIV-, in-shape or stocky for LTR. Smooth a plus. S 7215.

Looking For A Greek God?
Choose another. GWM, 44, 5'11", 175#, bald/rim, beard/mustache, hairy bottom, caring, sensitive, "average-fit", improving with age, seeks Asian/Latino under 35, smooth, slender, fit, top for LTR. Never let an adventure pass you by. S 7309.

Seeking A Muscular Black Male
Muscular GWM, 39, honest, sensitive seeks a well defined, muscular GBM for hot times. Interests: dining out, body building, communication. Pls be serious, no phonies. S 7216.

Senior Gentleman
Pleasant, healthy & trim would enjoy spending some quality time with a similar. Gentleman Penin. preferred. S 7217.

Wanted-Hot Men For Dating Etc.
You be 22-35, masculine, good-looking (w/o attitude), creative; height/weight proportionate; Pisces, Scorpio and Cancers a plus; I'm 5'11", 175#, brn hair & eyes. S 7218.

Ultra-Handsome Fat Bear...
Sks same. masc GWM, 30, 6'2", good shape/active at 320#, trim 'stache & beard, world traveler, multi-lingual, educated prof. You're similar: intell, mono, hndsm, 25-35, unwittingly pudgy to forthrightly fat. Let's get together & NOT be self-conscious. S 7219.

Open Mind/Open Heart
Seeking loving humanist ready to share life and serious love. You: intelligent, loves French wine, intimate dinners out or in, passion for travel. Be 35-50, NS, HIV-, 5'8" or more. S 7220.

Smooth Blond Into Hairy Men
42 yrs, muscular, good-looking, HIV-, smooth, tanned, more bottom than top, seeks a defined, romantic man for dating. Please be sincere. I smoke. S 7221.

ISO 40's Versatile Bareback Dad
Affectionate, clean, tall, handsome, muscular, hairy, hung for tight fit, regular to moderate leather kink, by handsome, 5'7", slim, muscular, smooth, hung, GWM, successful, clean-cut, for proud monogamous, loving coexistence. S 7222.

Chubby-Muscular Seeks Partner
Me: 30, masculine, blond, blue, 5'10", 225#, HIV-, safe, top or bottom for: bondage, humiliation, moderate S/M and fantasy. You: turned on by a kinky, attractive, heavy guy. S 7223.

Asian/Latin Boyfriend Wanted
WM, 44, 5'9", 155#, HIV+, loves fun, outdoors, dogs, music, cooking, movies, TV, reading, home, fireplace, hiking, bicycling, star gazing, staying healthy, laughing, having sex, sleeping, seeks happy friend, companion, partner. S 7224.

Me Tarzan U Boy Want A Banana
Tarzan, 32, muscular, HIV-, with fully appointed playroom Boy must be cute/handsome, honest, obedient, very oral, 18-39, HIV-, toned, clean-shaven, for fun and fantasy. Good boy gets the Banana. S 7225.

GAM Seeks GW Companion
HIV-, 5'8", 140#, pudgy, well-built body. loves laughing, movies, festivals & spending quality time with quality person. Seeking nice, well-built, humorous, HIV-, easy-going, GWM, 30-40, for companionship & possible LTR. S 7226.

Asian Search Summer '97
Looking for young Asians with positive attitude. Athletic, gym toned, love sports, music, movies, and community service. S 7227.

Ebony Seeks Ivory
GBM, 40, 5'10", 190#, athletic, out going, humorous, enjoys cultural and sporting events, photography, cooking, seeks outdoor adventure/indoor intimacy. S 7228.

The Mirror Has 2 Faces
Attractive GWM, 29, 6'2", 187#, brown hair, green eyes, and runner's build. Looking for romance with a man having similar characteristics. Humorous, attitude free and adventurous. S 7229.

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance, and quiet times seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. S 7230.

Looking For GWM 50's yo Only!
I'm GAM, 29yo, 5'6", 235 lbs., single, looking for GWM, 50's, you must be gentleman, handsome, sophisticated, proportion, bottom, single, drug-free, smoke OK, no bi, no children. S 7308.

Tanned No. Cal. Nordic Guy
GWM, 32, blond, 5'6", 155#, muscular, smooth/fuzzy butt, vers. bottom, boyish, stable/fun loving, N2 nature. You: GWM/HM, 30-40, 5'6"-5'10", fit, dk hair, masc. hairy A+, vers. top/stable/fun loving, NS. S 7310.

Wanna Unload In A Hot Hole?
Horny & hungry Italian stud bottom needs your cock in my manhole. 44, 6', 190#, ms/goatee & really loves to suck dick & take cock up my ass. S 7311.

Not Your Average Man
HIV+, healthy, attractive, 5'6", 140#, young 40 y. bottom, looking for black top, 30-45, for friendship, passion, baseball games, travel, and 7? I'm white/Latin, VGL, emotionally and financially secure. S 7312.

New To SF
Handsome, hairy masculine top GBM, 42, 6'1", HIV-, seeks similar age for friendship +. Enjoy the arts, outdoors, informed conversation. S 7314.

Light Side Dark Side
VGL, SWM, 6', 180, great shape, 40, top, HIV-, ISO good boys who like to be bad, or bad boys with hearts of gold, prefer muscular, hairy. S 7315.

Call Me Sir! And Strip!
Husky GWM, 52, ISO in-shape, E. Bay guy who likes to be spanked, rimmed, & sucked. Married, military, hairy OK. S 7322.

I Love Muscles
30's, GWM, blond/gym, 5'6", 140#, HIV+, ISO short muscled bottom GBM/GML, HIV+, body worship, romance, possible LTR. Let's connect. S 7316.

Charlie Sheen Type In Marin
Stable, down to earth, witty, fun loving guy seeks same enclosed in a stocky, football player body. No fens, NS, HIV-, no drugs, 25-35. Hope you like movies. S 7317.

Thinner Seeks Thinner
Driven to grow intellectually, understand the world and contribute to society? Intropective but non-spiritual/non-artsy? HIV-? Let's talk! I'm a college teacher, 33, 190#, 6', goateed! You're 20-40, slim/medium build. S 7318.

Seeking Stocky, Beefy, Buffed
Romantic/spontaneous, shaved heads & goatees a+ for LTR. I'm 21, 6', short, blond/blue, 155#, great shape. S 7319.

Blk/Latino Hook-Up
All I want is a masc. Latino fella w/nice lips, sense of humor, round hairy butt. I am 5'11", 185#, handsome. What do you want. S 7320.

Submissive Young Blacks
Big swollen nipples, round butts, buffed or slim bodies, clean hygiene, HIV-, 18-25, light skinned blacks a plus, GBM, 46, 5'10", 220#, 50' ch, 17 1/2" arms. S 7321.

Handsome ManBoy ISO Daddy
I'm 33, you're older. I'm bottom, you're top. I'm 5'7", you're taller. I'm very toned, you're extremely muscular. Both of us regular, handsome guys ISO monogamy. Call for more details. S 7323.

Big Dick, Vers., Gym-Toned 44yo
GBM, seeks safe encounter with healthy, hung, dark hair, dark-eyed beauty. I love unpretentious, spiritual, earthy (Taurean?) type. And good food, music, and dancing. S 7324.

BMW
Black Man Wanted. GWM, 50's, 6', 190, mustache, hairy chest, versatile, great shape, well-educated professional, East Bay homeowner, HIV-, seeks slender or muscular GBM for sex buddy or LTR. S 7325.

Searching For Normal Guy
Nice looking, 34yo, WM, bodybuilder seeks GWM or Pacific Islander for friendship, possible relationship. Interests include weightlifting, the beach, movies, eating out and traveling. Please be masculine, muscular and HIV-. S 7326.

Fire! Friendly! Affection!
Husky, playful, professional GWM, 48, 6', versatile top, wants sizzle and tenderness. I love music, cats, walking, and urban delights. You're a frisky, thin, romantic, responsible B/GWM, HIV-, NS/ND. S 7327.

Seven Day Kiss
Handsome GWM with wit, warmth, soul and desire for living seeks black male for passionate adventures. Me: 40, tall, muscular, active. You: outgoing, good body and mind, open to possibilities. S 7328.

GWM Seeks GAM
Looking for GAM, 21-35 yrs old for friendship and possible relationship. I'm GWM, 41 yrs, 5'6", 138#, live in SF and enjoy sports and quiet times. S 7329.

Black Man 41, HIV-, 6'1", 170#
Beard, short dreads sks friends. I'm a music teacher, musician, masseur and gardener. I'm vegetarian into simple living & spiritual practices. I live in the foothills of Mendocino county. I visit the Bay Area occasionally. Not looking for sex buddy. ND/NS/NA. S 7330.

Wanted! That Special Man 4 LTR!
Me: GWM, 45, HIV+, 6', 165#. Quiet, easy going, sensitive, responsible, honest, sincere, affectionate, versatile, caring. UB: 35-45, ISO-LTR, h/wt proportionate, similar qualities, capable to share emotional/physical intimacy. S 7409.

Can We Cuddle?
Feed me, give me a show, and afterwards we'll cuddle, converse, caress...GWM, 38, 5'10", 150#, introverted artist/educator wants 28-42, GWM/HM h/wt appropriate with theater/music/art interests. S 7410.

I'm Seeking More Than Just Sex
GBM, 34, 6', 275 lbs., beard, HIV-, ISO GWM, under 50, 5'11" or taller, medium/stocky build for fun, friendship, companionship, more! Facial hair a plus. No smoke/drugs. S 7411.

HIV+ Latin Top Wanted
I like 'em short, dark and thick, HIV+ bottom, 35, 185#, 6', blue/brown in Concord area needs East Bay boyfriend. LTR with local Capricorn or Virgo. S 7412.

Craving Companionship
GWM, 29, 6'2", hairy, energetic, spontaneous, funny, Euro-mutt, seeks collegiate, all-American type. Be fun, active, eccentric, down-to-earth, honest. Let's bike, cafe, binge, listen to loud music, smooch. S 7313.

Seeking Younger For Romance
GWM, 73, 5'8", 170#, seeks on going friendship, poss relationship with an attr. 18-40 gay or bi-curious man seeking same. Fantasies explored. Daddy-Son, etc. S 7413.

GWM Ex-Model Sks Musc Bottom
Very good-looking GWM, 45, 5'10", 170#, 45" C, 16" A, 32" W, musc skg BB or musc GWM (20's-30's) for friendship, outings & quiet times sharing conversation, good feelings, & great times together. S 7414.

Hugs & Kisses Come First
My arms hold what the world lacks. Me: attrac, oral, GWM, top, 46, 6'5", 250#, football player build, brown hair/mustache, hairy chest & stomach. You: attrac, GWM, 21-35, slim, smooth/moderate body, hairy, nice buns, good kisser a plus. S 7415.

Attractive Latino 26 HIV+
I'm 5'7", 170#, muscular, masculine student seeking single guy, Latino or Caucasian under 35 for friendship maybe more. S 7416.

Genie Leather Dad
In SF, GWM, 60, 5'9", 150#, bearded, cut, affectionate, mostly oral seeks masculine GWM/GM, 35-50, for play without pain. NS/ND. Facial hair a plus. S 7417.

Rice Seeks Potato
A little naughty, a little nice...worked out, 5'8", 140#, 26, smooth, conservative, outdoorsy GAM ISO clean cut, creamy GWM under 35 for some romance/LTR. S 7418.

Sex-Slave Companion
GWM, 53, 5'7", 140#, masculine top, NS, HIV-. You need to fuck, suck, feel owned, bondage, HIV-, NS, between 25-40. S 7419.

Monterey GA/W ISO Boyfriend
30, HIV-, 5'7", 150, hairy legs, cute, professional, clean, witty, old fashioned, loyal, ISO romantic, loving, clean, loyal, humorous, down to earth man for LTR. Are you interested? Please call. S 7420.

Stocky Bearded Man Wanted!
Me: 28, 5'7", 165#, dark hair, brown eyes, bearded, olive complexion—Looking for a partner, 30-45, stocky bear type, bearded or goatee. Serious only. S 7421.

Wolf Seeking Pack
New to SF—seeking friends and LTR. GWM, br/bl, 265#, hairy (but not into bear culture). Looking for running buddies—movies, live music, dancing, Pasqua, Pasta Pomodoro, Trannyshack, End-up. S 7422.

Wit
Jewish male, 45, 6', 197, hirsute, articulate, philosophical/artistic with humor to boot seeks bright and warm hearted boyfriend. S 7423.

No More Frogs. Where's My Prince?
Very cute, GWM, 35, healthy HIV bottom in search of a warm, loving who is in search of a lasting, loving relationship. Please R.S.V.P. S 7424.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Wanted: Big Firm Butt
Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big, needs Cau men well built w/big hairy butt to eat and fuck. S 7231.

Are You A Hot & Hung Btm Boy?
Athletic, well hung top, GWM has what you want. You: 25-39, masc. GWM/GLM. Me: 35, 5'10", 155#. Driven. S 7232.

Do You Qualify?
Looking for an expert cocksucker. UB tall, short, hairy, bald, young, old, fat, skinny, black, white, brown, rich, poor... But you must give great head and love doing it. Leave #. S 7233.

Curses Of Cockslucking Class:
Limp dicks just the beginning. Lit loads the real end. But let's see if a gifted pro can't get you to shoot by the mouthful. S 7234.

Novice Bottom
GWM, HIV+, 30, 5'9", 155#, great body, great smile. Looking for versatile, athletic GWM's, 25-35 to explore and rattle with. S 7235.

Asian Top Seeks GWM Bottom
GAM, 30's, 5'7", 130#, in shape, seeking GWM bottom. You under 45, chubby, HIV-, NS/ND. Mustache preferred. S 7236.

HIV- Bear Skis Other Bears/Cubs
GWM, 39/6'2"/220#/avid outdoors man/professional, sks long haired, furred/shaggy, sensual & versatile men for nose-to-nose confrontation. S 7237.

Gym Bottom Into Average Joe?
WM, 40's, HIV-, average build dominant verbal imaginative seeks very muscular bodybuilder exhibitionist bottom HIV- into taking orders, showing off giving head, taking dildos and more at your place. S 7238.

Bottom ISO Hot Top
Good-looking 5'10", brn, grn, gym toned, masculine 35 yo bottom seeks, good-looking, in-shape, masculine top, 25-42, for play and hot times. S 7239.

HIV+ White Btm Sks Black Top
Me: 6', 140, boyish, 40yr, healthy, attractive, hungry I smoke, I'm not a gym bunny, but I am a great piece of ass, looking for regular playmates who attitude. You: Black top. S 7240.

Mexican Cowboys
Ride me. Soy Pavo, WM, 48, masc, 5'11", 170#, safe, sane, neg, healthy and very discreet. My place? Me gusta Mexicanos. S 7241.

ISO Dominant
Submissive ISO dominant experienced in quietly taking control and directing obedience. I'm negative, 5'6", 155#, attrax, work out, 43. You're similar. (Leather A+). S 7242.

Attn: Boys
Dad, 50 years, wants well-built W or L boys 30 to 39, any size, for bondage, massage, bathroom procedure, spankings, other control rituals. S 7243.

Long Hair Guys
Turn on! Let's play. Me: 49, GWM, salt & pepper, 5'9", & stache. You: GWM, 35-52, trim. Us: versatile, sexually, sensual, tits, hair & ass. Great combo/sex. S 7244.

East Bay Rough-House Wanted
WM, 49, 5'10", 170#, very hairy chest, mustache, HIV-, good shape. Likes wrestling, boxing, toughness, struggling, combat, younger and ethnic a plus. The real thing. S 7245.

Clean-cut Raunch Top
Seeks clean-cut bottom boy for on going and discrete "relationship." Private degradation, bondage, humiliation, and/or raunch. Will train beginner. S 7246.

Italian Top Seeks Blond Bottom
Good-looking muscular & lean Italian wants to fuck horny, in-shape blond boy on a regular basis. I'm passionate and dominant, looking for someone submissive but active. Be masculine, in good shape and available weekday daytime. S 7247.

Seeking Latino Bottom
Attractive Italian seeks young masculine Latino into being fucked on a regular basis. I'm dark featured, very defined and muscular, passionate & dominant. S 7248.

Sonoma Co.
Brn/blond sensual oral affectionate blue eyes, 180#, mustache, 42 yr disabled guy seeking muscular cowboy for good times, 25-45. Hot. S 7249.

Bi Married Guy
47, beard, 300+ #, w/19 yr old buddy, 140#, from LA looking for safe games w/lookers, 18 to 7 serious players only. S 7250.

Seeking Friends For Fun And?
SGWM, 37, swimmer's build, tall, gldking, healthy & ISO other nice masc types for dating & poss LTR. Friendly, down to earth, and honest. Enjoy outdoors, daytrips, movies, beaches, etc. Sexually versatile top/btm, mutual oral some tit play. S 7251.

Hung Big
Hot 6', 35, 160#, good-looking all-American collegiate-type w/gym toned body. Hung big, versatile. Seeks good-looking guys for fun. Couples a plus. S 7252.

Handsome Italian With Big Cock
Seeks all types with gym toned bodies who crave fucking & sucking shaved & trimmed asses a plus. Top bottom. I'm a pig. S 7253.

Anus Madness
Slide your hand inside my warm, inviting pig butt—make it loose and sloppy—expand my limits—punch my hole, relax & explore. S 7254.

Muscular Top Sks BB/Bottom
Good-looking muscular GWM, seeks very muscular or BB bottom for butt play. Lth, bondage, fantasies are pluses. I'm 45, you be GWM, 20's-early 40's. S 7331.

My Gorgeous Black 9" 50 yo
Throat choker needs draining often. Masculine experts only. No beads or goates (they scratch), beeper/pager #, phone games. All races welcome. Oakland. Fast, hot action. S 7332.

Oral Slave Wanted
GWM, top, 5'10", 175#, HIV-, built, in shape, 42, seeking HIV-, masculine muscle boy with hot mouth/hole. Pluses: verbal, leather, fun, sane S&M, for mutually excitable good times. S 7333.

I Like Men...
That are hairy, husky and hung. Between 35-47, dark features, uncult+++. Me: 27, 5'7", swimmer's build, Scorpio, green eyes, daytime fun. S 7334.

Bottom Seeking Handsome Top
GWM, 37, 5'11", 175#, bl/salt & pepper, smooth, well toned, uncult 7" dick, handsome seeking handsome, well toned, A/H/J/W/M to service me. S 7335.

Scat And WS Buddies Wanted
GWM, 40, great body, looking for hot guys into scat and WS. Let's get dirty and get off. UB under 40, slim, trim and ready to play. S 7336.

Tongue Twisting Twirler
Wet licks your top. Blond, long hair, cute, late thirties, tell what it looks like. Gives mindless head, do you? S 7337.

Ride On My Bushy Mustache
Feel my long tongue dancing inside your hot butt. Me: 6', 165#, brn/bl, 39. You: hot, trim and ready. S 7338.

Young Blond Fun Exciting Guy
Is looking to meet very good-looking, smooth, in shape guys 20 to 31 for fun, adventure, dinner, massage and you name it! S 7339.

Hunky Daddy Needs Service
HIV+, 40's, healthy, muscular, goatee, hairy, dark Mediterranean type, hung, uncult, horny. UB: any age, in shape, any race, versatile, sturdy. S 7340.

Hawaiians/Pac Islanders Wanted
White male, 44 years old, blue/brown, goatee, 6', 146 lbs, masculine, & HIV- interested in meeting Hawaiian/Pac Islanders, 18-35, slim-build to average for hot times. S 7355.

I Wanna Suck Your Butt
Italian slud, 44, 6', 190#, goatee, wants to bury my tongue up your hot, clean butt. Castro late night sex, Fri-Mon, 12-5 AM. S 7341.

Cock Service
GWM, 47, trim, nice looking, my interest: giving good head to mature men. If your trim, late 50's or older, clean, HIV-, call me! No reciprocation necessary. Your place. S 7342.

Very Affluent GWM Seeks Cute
GWM (under 25) for friendship. Me: young 47, sensitive, well-educated, over weight (but attractive and getting fit). You: very cute, student?, athletic, sexual. Love travel, affection, fun. Father/son relationship? No drugs/hustlers. S 7343.

Hot Naked Sunbathing
Exhibitionist seeking back yards, decks, pools & roof tops to soak up the nude summer sun. Naked fun with sun tan lotion and other made men. Let's get naked!!! S 7344.

Black Muscle Top Wanted
With smooth skin, big dick, HIV-, kick back & let me worship that big cock. Light eyes a special plus. S 7345.

Hairy Ass Bottom
Good-looking, gr eyes, big nipples, looking for top fist to train and stretch light ass. S 7346.

HIV+ GWM Sks Reg. Fuck Buddy
(LTR possible) 41, 5'10", 150#, short brown hair, healthy. Into leather, boots, slings, hoods, etc. Like fucking, eating ass, FF, WS, etc/versatile. S 7347.

Leather & Bondage
Leather, bondage, dominance/submission and S&M, in that order. Experienced leather master, 5'10", 160#, brn/grn, ISO local in-shape leather boys & potential slaves for training. S 7348.

Here's The Deal
I'm 32, youthful, handsome, fit, professional, mostly-straight. You're older, polite, clean. We meet and chat. Then go to your place where you provide enthusiastic and submissive oral service. S 7349.

Hairy Husky Men
Hispanic/Italian, 42, 6', 150#, moderately hairy ISO straight-cutting, husky, hairy men over 38 who enjoy oral sex, kissing, affection. Facial hair a+. No drugs, gay scene, gyms. Tobacco OK. S 7350.

Home Video???
Do you have the fantasy of starring in your own sex video? I can help you bring your idea to full production with you being the sole holder of the finished product. I am a videographer and director. You and your partner(s) are the actors. S 7351.

Lonely??
Traditional Chinese married gay husband whose interests include music, video, movies, sex and all the beautiful things in life. I am slim, financially independent, exotic looking, and in my 30's. S 7352.

One Night Stand
Muscular Asian wanted by 5'6", 155#, construction worker, for fun times only. S 7353.

Full Body Firm Massage Wanted
Handsome, athletic, smooth, Asian male wants full body long and firm oil massages from experienced masseurs. S 7354.

Your Biggest Load Is Gonna Cum
Your rock hard dick shoots all ya spit, which I lovingly swallow as our world class climax to my sucking you really, really well off! S 7426.

Seeking Muscular Hung Dad!
Smooth, well-built boy (6'1", 190 hard #s) seeks well-built, hung, hard-bodied, handsome hunky Dad for regular sweaty sessions. HIV-. I am. Occasional girths, leather great! Am willing and eager. S 7425.

Try To Learn Some German!
German GWM spends 6 weeks here, 36/6'4"/187 #, blond, short hair/beard, uncult, ISO action friendship and companion for Palm Springs gay resort holiday 8/26-9/3, share costs (\$200). S 7427.

Alimentary, My Dear Watson
Yes, sucking or fuckin', it's the same canal but I'd rather suck you off so I get to swallow every part of your load that's so good to last! 607 S 7428.

Asian Man Wants White Guy
For hot sex. Asian, 5'7", 135#, looking for GM, 25-40 to service me. Light drink, smoke OK. Prefer your place. HIV- S 7429.

Have Suckin' Butt
Horny, handsome, "favorite uncle" type looking for healthy in-shape guys up to 40 with bubble butts and low hangers for suck fest. All races. S 7430.

Looking For The Bigger...
The better. GWM, 36, hung thick, seeks other hung guy, 28-39, over 7", to top me for anal pleasures. Plus, if you're thick, verbal, versatile. S 7431.

R.U. Big?
Handsome bottom, 30, 5'11", 150#, ISO tops w/9" + to sit on and ride bareback. HIV+, 25-55 only; smart fun, funny A+++. S 7432.

Dominant Masculine Asian
Good-looking, muscular, clean-cut, 34, 5'9", 170 lbs, seeks submissive gym-toned to hunks for safe funplay, fantasies and role-playing. S 7433.

Open Wide
WM, 48, 5'10", 175#, oral, anal bottom seeks one (or more) who knows sex. Am willing to do your bidding—teach this feisty guy to submit. S 7434.

Just Shut-Up And Ride!
WM, 32, 5'10", 200 lb, blond/blue eyed muscle hunk (48" ch, 31" w, 18" arms) wants good-looking masculine men to pump me full of squirt. Call anytime. S 7435.

Leather & Muscle FF/Toy Frat
Interviewing for top notch muscled guys, 25-40, hot for leather, FF, toys, group action with built grade A masculine dudes ready to pledge for excellent, nasty fun. S 7436.

Xtra Cock Play Action Discreet
GWM, 50, in relationship w/lost enough action seekers others or similar guys for afternoon play. Let's get our hands in each others' briefs, 69, ball licking, JO, kissing. Nice guy, 170#, HIV-, average clean cut guy. S 7437.

Feed Me Lunch/Dinner
GBM ISO endowed horny men who are HIV- to service black, Hispanic, Middle Eastern are a plus but all welcome. S 7438.

I Need Another Hot Mouth
To help me service my hot black pal. He's attractive, hung. You should be black or super hairy (all over, any race). Some weekday sucks possible. Be masculine, uninhibited, good C.S. S 7439.

Cherry Picker Where Are You!
BD, built, bottom looking 4 a cherry picker, FF top for my first time, and your best time. S 7440.

GWM, 5'11", 170 lbs, Blu/ S/P
GWM, trim beard, HIV-, NS, mod/tit/dick seeks GBM/GHM, HIV-, NS into safe, pleasurable play (dildoes, fingers, massage). Let's kick back, and open wide. S 7442.

Satisfaction Guaranteed
GWM, 50's, lean fit, HIV-, looking for instruction and training in discipline and service in SF. All ages and races welcome. S 7443.

Flex Appeal
Wanted: boys or men, 21-45 yrs old, thin to muscular, with defined biceps, who enjoy flexing, servicing dick, and getting fucked. I'm 6'1", 185#, 37 yrs, muscular, gym toned, top oriented. S 7444.

Nasty Submissive Bottom Pig
Fit, slim, muscular, tattooed, 30's, bottom, 5'7", 140#, wants total control from sane hot, in-shape, hung, sadistic top guy. WS, bondage, rap/saves scenes. V hung black guy a plus. S 7445.

Going Back To School
Buddy, masculine, tan, good-looking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV- craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, safe JO, fantasies. Light odor, toughened soles OK. Further friendship possible. S 7446.

My Hot Butt And—
If you love to play with a beautiful butt, kiss, rim, caress, rim, make me squirm and whatever comes next?? Ideas? You slender under 35. S 7447.

Weekends & Afternoons
N. Bay cocksucker wants clean cut big cocks to deep throat me. Clean, HIV-, early 50's, hot mouth, plus little tight hairy ass. Available for exploring & fucking. You be in charge. I'm eager to please!! Age, race, looks, unimportant. S 7448.

Hot Top ISO Furry Bottom
Sexy Italian, 45, 200 #, hairy and hungry ISO GWM, 35-55. Hairy, in shape body must love safe sexual adventures. Week-days are best. S 7449.

Big Tasty Hard Cock Needed
Suck my tits and I'll let you slam your tool up my hot ass. I'm 27 yo, slim, BM, & ready to worship hot good looking man. S 7450.

This Hole's For You
If you are a serious fucker h/wt prop. and you want a hot, wet, natural" hole to fuck. Call now. Sexy GBM, 39, lean, trim, masc, & ready. S 7451.

Young Guys Wanted
If you are handsome, well-built, well-endowed, under age 28. Want to get the best service by a healthy, good looking young men and get paid for your time. Call. S 7452.

Hotter Than Ever Sexy Boy Teen
Very cute, very young, experienced, smooth body, 21yo, blond, clean shaven, good dick 7X5, gay sex wanted, whipping, fetishes from jocks. S 7461.

FETISHES

300# Plus?
ISO of really big men. Sexy senior Daddy will make love to your beautiful body. I'm 6', 180#, 6 1/2" uncult. Tit work a plus! S 7255.

Suck Boy Diapers & Plastic Pants
Needs leather Dad to put a collar on me. Put me on a leash and take me to the Dore Alley fair, please help me sir! S 7256.

Butthole Action
Get your hole eaten on rim chair. Dildo play. Me: 46, 160, 5'11", masc. attr. You: in shape, to 45, clean, hot, HIV-. S 7257.

Nylon Spandex Athletic Clothes
GWM, 32, 6'3", 200#, gym 3-4 x wk. bl/bl, HIV-, seeking men w/nylon, spandex fetish, socks, jocks, speedos and bikini strings. Seek tops, hung A+ sex too! S 7258.

Sexy Senior Citizens Only
Older men needed to admire, suck big dick and balls. Worshipful devotees may want to invite a friend to share because it's a real mouthful. Kinky scenes, too, if needed. S 7259.

Nasty Hairy Top
Healthy, hairy scat top in good shape, 45, into getting dirty, uniforms, cops, underwears, incest, molesting, suit and tie +. S 7260.

FF Playroom
GWM, 39, 6'3", leather bear top has sling for safe gentle FF play with my large hands or cum to your place SF to S.J. Be serious, experienced. S 7261.

Cigar Dad Wants To Get Fucked!
I'm versatile—wants top or vers men. I'm hot, handsome and sticky build. A pig looking for other pigs. Let's party and play. S 7356.

Derby jackets & Ski Masks
Blue collar dude, skinhead, tattoos, gives cock service to punks, cops, guys in buns, derby jackets, beanies, ski-masks. S 7357.

FF Top ISO Bottom w/Huge Hole
UR WM, LM under 46 yrs and slim. Hairy ass is great but smooth is fine. I'm WM, 6'2" w/trim facial hair, hairy arms and fun dildoes. S 7358.

Bondage For Asians
WM, late 40's, willis trip, tie you up, play with your cock/balls/tits and make you cum. Muscular a plus. S 7359.

Hot Guy w/Toe Ring Skis Barefoot
Buddy, masculine, tan, good-looking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV- craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, safe JO, fantasies. Light odor, toughened soles OK. Further friendship possible. S 7360.

Tit Tug O'War
Let's yank those big tits. Muscular, masculine guy with huge knobs seeks same for hot heavy tit-work sessions. S 7453.

Slave Seeks Master(s)
Experienced bottom seeks top(s) for bondage and consensual S&M. Am 40, 5'10", good looks/build, trim beard, like to be in secure bondage when I am flogged (many other kinky interests). Safe sex oriented. No Drugs. S 7454.

Drip...Drip...Gush...Gush
Hottest, hardest yellow stream in town. Big hose. Be very thirsty. I prefer older pig mouths. S 7455.

Need A Hot Rim
Truly an asshole eater first, w/rim seat. Me: Hisp, hit, very attr., 5'11", 165#, 40. You: hot, in shape to 40, with puckering hole & lips. S 7456.

Daytime Asshole Eater
"Get your asshole eaten by a pro." S 7457.

Butthole Action
Get your hole eaten on rim chair, dildo play optional. Me: 46, 160#, 5'11", masc., attr. You: in shape to 45, clean, hot, HIV-. S 7458.

Nipple Training Top Dad Bear
Wanted by 35yo, shared guy, UC, HIV-, 5'9", 185 lbs. Have big, sensitive nipples, looking to make bigger thru tit torture. No smokers. S 7459.

Shamanic Body Play
Bondage enthusiast interested in Shamanism ISO a masochist, 20-40, for exploration & partnership. You must be in shape, husky & serious. I'm 5'9", 180#, uncult, experience, in-shape, sadist. Serious submissive only. S 7460.

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GWM, Caucasian seeks handsome guy, 22-45, for scat and water sports, no fats or fems. S 7463.

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I'm seeking a dominant effeminate GM who enjoys being slowly & sensually orally serviced by a submissive, masculine, 38 yo, 6', 155#, moderately hairy LM. No pain, S&M. S 7264.

Live Out Our Fantasies
Handsome sexy Chinese 39, great body is seeking cute GM, 28-45, with a great physique to share S&M, ropes, CBT, TT, toys, etc. erotic torture pleasure. I enjoy things other than sex with you, too. S 7265.

21 Yr Old Hispanic Student
Very good looking ISO gentlemen who can service me front and back. Do you think you're worthy? Me: 5'11", 155#, S 7266.

Looking For Hunks, Chunky Guy
ISO daytime friend, 40 in Solano/Napa counties. Lunches & hiking appreciated but open to other pastimes. I'm a 45yo, 5'10", 165 lbs. Eurasian into woodworking, photography, antiques, traveling etc. S 7267.

Share Your Favorite Music
Small gay male group needs one or two recruits. Sunday evenings, food & music (symphony, chamber, opera, etc.) CD, LP, reel-to-reel. Great sound, comfortable setting. S 7363.

Hey Guys
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EVENT

'Beach Blanket' boogie



Join *Beach Blanket Babylon* stars **Val Diamond, Renee Lubin,** and **Kenny Mazlow** this Saturday, August 9 (1 p.m.) at Macy's for a fun-filled book signing of **Janet Lynn Roseman's** new, colorful, photo-filled tome *Beach Blanket Babylon: A Hats-Off Tribute to San Francisco's Most Extraordinary Musical Revue*. Saturday's *Beach Blanket* festivities will include signature hats and costumes, and in addition to the book signing, guests will be treated to a display of fabulous *Beach Blanket* memorabilia. It all happens in the handbag department at Macy's (Macy's West on 1) at 1 p.m. Roseman's book, the first to be penned about "the longest-running musical revue in American history," is available from Chronicle Books/San Francisco. ▼

A flaming farewell

by Sweet Lips

Yes, folks, the rumors you've heard are true, and I'm not talking about that "secret" operation Greta Grass had down in Juarez. No, I'm referring to the fact that Empress XI Flame is leaving San Francisco — and not on a rail, either. The old gal is being fêted all over town, with the appropriate tributes being made as befits her royal status.

First up, on Saturday, August 9, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., the Castro Station (456 Castro) presents "Fire Over Tucson," billed as "a pre-farewell party, silent auction and beer bust." The event features a "liquidation sale of Flame's private male art collection" (Colt, Palmer, Tank, Tom of Finland, etc.). Hubba-hubba! You can bet there'll be some choice *objets d'art* you'll want to add to your own gallery of guys. The flier asserts that the collection includes "200 matted & framed, frontal endowed nudes," which I assume means that you can see their peepes. (At least, I hope so.) Of course, celebrity guest hosts galore will be on hand, plus tons of drink specials. A portion of the auction proceeds goes to AIDS Benefit Counselors/SF. Don't miss it!

As if that weren't enough, the Castro Station also invites you to "The Exodus of the Flame" that same day from 7 p.m. to midnight. Come bid a fond *adieu* to Her Most Exalted Imperial Majesty at this party and charity

soirée.

The "au revoirs" continue with Marlena's (488 Hayes) "A Farewell to the Fire Goddess," on Sunday, August 10, 4-11 p.m. *Mucho* royalty (Empress XIV Ginger, Emperor XIV Mathew Brown, Empress XXV Marlena, etc.) will be paying homage to the Flaming One, as well as emceeing a special auction of her legendary gowns. With a barbecue and surprise guest entertainers.

A portion of the auction proceeds goes to the National AIDS Memorial Grove.

As the Absolute Czarina de Turk Street Now and Forever Amen, it's my official duty to inform you of the grand opening of Mr. Lee *Ona's Cocktail Lounge at 301 Turk on Saturday, August 9, 10 a.m.-midnight. Formerly the site of the fabled Kokpit, Lee *Ona's new venture promises to be a happening kind of place. Join the gang there this weekend for food, fun and, yes, frivolity. Enjoy the beauteous bevy of accommodating hosts and hostesses. Thrill to the special appearance of Empress I Jose, The Widow Norton, Reina de Mundo. And, most especially, belly up to The Cow for a sip of her milk! Those udders never stop flowing! It's a quicker picker-upper, gentle readers! Best of luck, Lee *Ona!

That gyrtin' Ginger is putting on "The Sissy Spaceout World's Smallest Drag Show" at The

Wooden Horse (622 Polk) on Saturday, August 16, at 10 p.m. A benefit for Project Open Hand, the extravaganza boasts the considerable talents of Empress XXVI Caresse and the inestimable Prince to the Scenic Highways Tom Harvey. Always a load of laughs!

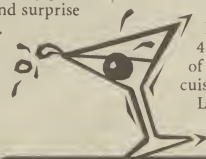
If you're in a South-of-the-Border kind of mood, trip on down to La Posada (2298 Fillmore, 415/922-1722) for some of their too fab Mexican cuisine by chef Danaile. Love those potent concoctions by mischievous mixologist Melvin!

Happy Silver Anniversary wishes go out to

Jerry and Joe on Wednesday, August 13!

Birthday greetings to the big and beautiful Greta Grass on the 15th (also Kenny Allison)! My good friend Howard and my boss George on the 8th! Greta will be diving into a cake rather than popping out of one this year! A slice of chocolate gâteau avec ice cream for everyone, and watch out for those candles! Last year, Greta caught her pompadour on fire and couldn't get the smell of seared Aquanet out of her apartment for a month, poor thing!

P.S.: Sure to be a don't-miss affair is the Giraffe's 60th birthday bash for Kenny Allison on Friday, August 15! Kenny knows how to have a good time on his natal day in or out of his birthday suit! ▼



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BOOKS

Pentagon prattling

by Deborah Peifer

Ground Zero: The Gender Wars in the Military by Linda Bird Francke; Simon & Schuster, \$25

I suppose we should congratulate the military on its commitment to recycling. How else to explain the generals' and admirals' efforts to use the same tired, irrelevant, and wrong-headed arguments to keep women out of the armed forces that they've used to exclude non-whites and queers. Linda Bird Francke's subtitle is right on the money — there is nothing less than a war by men against women in this country, and it shows its ugliest face where women assert their equality with those manly men.

"Ground Zero," Francke explains, "is a narrative of the cultural and biological forces at work within the military culture that divide the sexes, dictate women's harassment and demean their achievements." Using the Gulf War and the period im-

mediately following as her framework, Francke looks at the question of women in combat and the threat to manly men that the female warrior poses.

"Women could be 'militarized,' but not so much as to threaten masculine self-confidence," Francke explains. For ex-

actly how fragile is male self-confidence if it can be demolished by the mere presence of gay or female soldiers? Guys, get a grip!

All the same tired arguments used to keep women in a subservient place are refuted powerfully in *Ground Zero*. To the claim that women were less like-

mented in 1980. In the subsequent 15 years, the military did nothing substantive to address the issue.

The crackdown on gays and lesbians that was intensified under Ronald Reagan's presidency (we have so much to thank him for) "made it far easier for

their sexual advances turned down by women could start the rumor mill rolling by dropping hints of lesbianism. Women's only recourse was to have voluntary or involuntary sex with their potential accusers."

Questions of rape are examined from various perspectives, from rape by one's fellow soldiers to the notion of women as potential rape victims were they to be captured by an enemy. "Sexually assaulting women was such a universally accepted by-product of military male behavior," Francke explains, "that it would be 1996 before rape was defined as a war crime by the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague."

As long as women and gays are prevented from serving in combat, we will continue to be regarded as less than full citizens. *Ground Zero* is an indictment of the manly men and their pathetic reasoning for keeping more than half the population from service. It will make you furious, but you need to read *Ground Zero*. ▼

"Sexually assaulting women was such a universally accepted by-product of military male behavior," Francke explains, "that it would be 1996 before rape was defined as a war crime by the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague."

ample: "Women Marine recruits receive instruction in hair care, techniques of make-up application, guidance on poise, and etiquette," reads a Marine recruit training manual for women in the wake of the Gulf War. The corps even issued an official Marine lipstick to its female recruits in boot camp." My question is,

ly to be deployable, "women had studies to prove that men lost more time to injury or disciplinary charges than women did to pregnancy." As for the shocking news — at least as far as the Pentagon was concerned — that sexual harassment occurred in 1995, Francke outlines that the very same charges were docu-

men to harass women than for women to defend themselves. By 1985, what can only be described as a decade of terror for women had begun. Sexual blackmail became the order of the day. Service personnel who resented taking orders from women, who had received bad performance reports from women, who'd had

Out There

◀ page 31

and the whole place just looks fabulous. This is all good news because now that SFO General Director **Lotfi Mansouri's** house is in order — quite literally — he can get down to the real business of putting on quality opera, an endeavor understandably compromised last year by the Civic Auditorium/Orpheum Theatre shuffle. Yet judging from some of the casting decisions the company has made for the upcoming season, SFO '97 looks like Business As Usual. **Elizabeth Connell** as Elektra? **Carol Vaness** as Floria Tosca? **Paolo Gavanelli** as Rigoletto? Schlockmeister **Michael Smuin** choreographing *Death in Venice*? Sometimes it seems like names are just being pulled from hats at 301 Van Ness Avenue.

The impression that anything goes at our local opera was underscored for Pithy recently when one of her friends — yet another well-placed queen (with vermilion-colored eyewear) — supped with SFO General Director Lotfi Mansouri. Though you'd think the company's head honcho would have talked about something relevant, like say opera,

Miss Eyeware relates that LM did nothing but mouth superfluities about **Ann Sheridan** and **Bette Davis**, oh, and his wife, of course.

Alternative mythmaking

Pithy Galore's good friend **Portia Capplethwaite** is forever going on about how everyone in



Donna Karan

New York is just so much more fucking primo and awesome than everyone else in the world because they live in Mangelhattan. Well, Portia is right, *natch*, but not everyone who calls the Big Cripple home has gone from the crib to the Algonquin Room. Take, for instance, Cripple fashion legend **Donna Karan**. In a recent interview with Toronto-based *Fab* magazine, Karan admits she "always got poor marks as a student" and was "painfully shy" as a teen. And though today Karan runs a multi-million dollar fashion empire, her first efforts in the industry two decades ago were hardly remarkable. In fact, she was fired from her first job by *haute couture* legend **Anne Klein**. Says Karan: "I just couldn't do anything right." We appreciate Ms. Karan's candor.

'Boys in the Band' turns 30

Those of you into observing important milestones in the arts may want to head to LA next week to catch what's being touted as the "all-star celebrity 30th anniversary" reading of **Mart Crowley's** *The Boys in the Band*. The reading will feature **Chad Allen** (*Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*); **Mitchell Anderson** (*Party of Five*); **Michael Jeter**



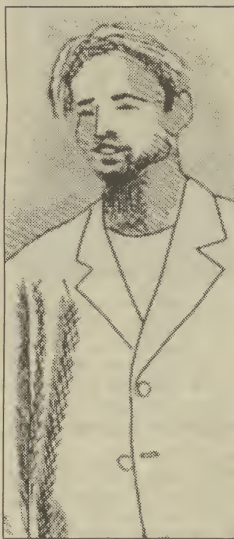
Mitchell Anderson

(*Evening Shade*); **Tim Maculan** (*Cybil*); **Michael Ralph** (*A Different World*); film actor **Steve Tyler**; theater veteran **Michael Kearns**; Emmy winner **Bruce Vilanch**; and diving champ **Greg Louganis**.

The 30th anniversary reading of *The Boys in the Band* takes place August 18 and 19 (8 p.m.) in Los Angeles at the Hudson Theatre, 6539 Santa Monica Boulevard. The rather pricey tickets (\$100-\$1,000) can be reserved by calling (213) 466-1767.

Val?

Finally, did everyone see the "Baggy Comes Back" tableau in last week's *The New Yorker*? Isn't the guy in the DKNY sketch a dead ringer for **Val Kilmer**? ▼



Val Kilmer in a DKNY "lab coat"?

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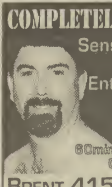


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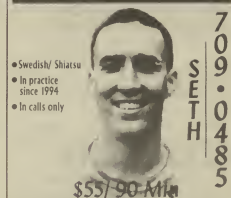
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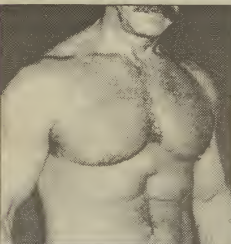
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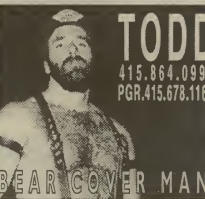
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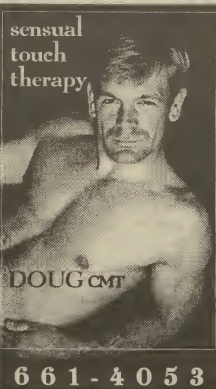
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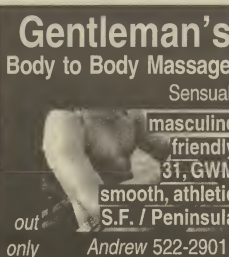


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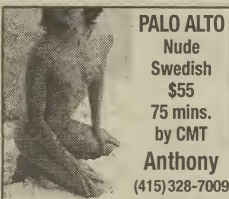
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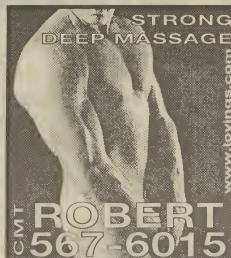
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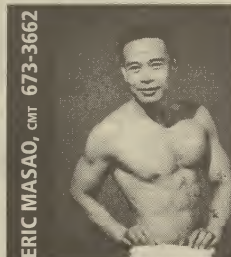
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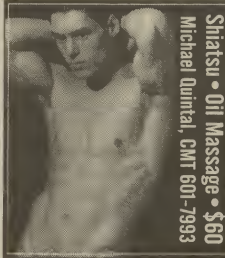
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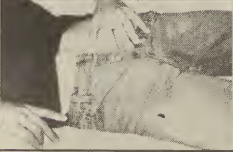
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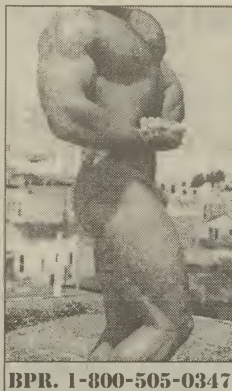
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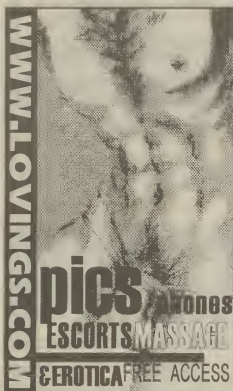
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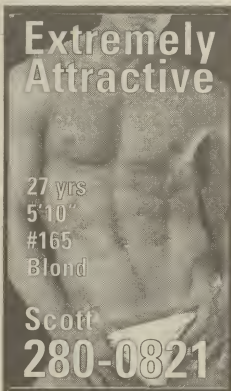
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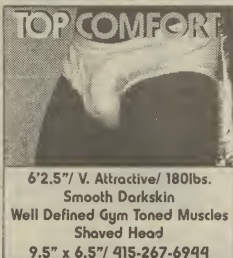
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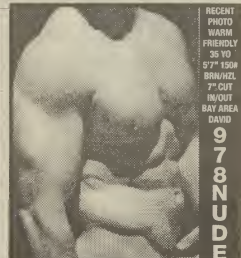
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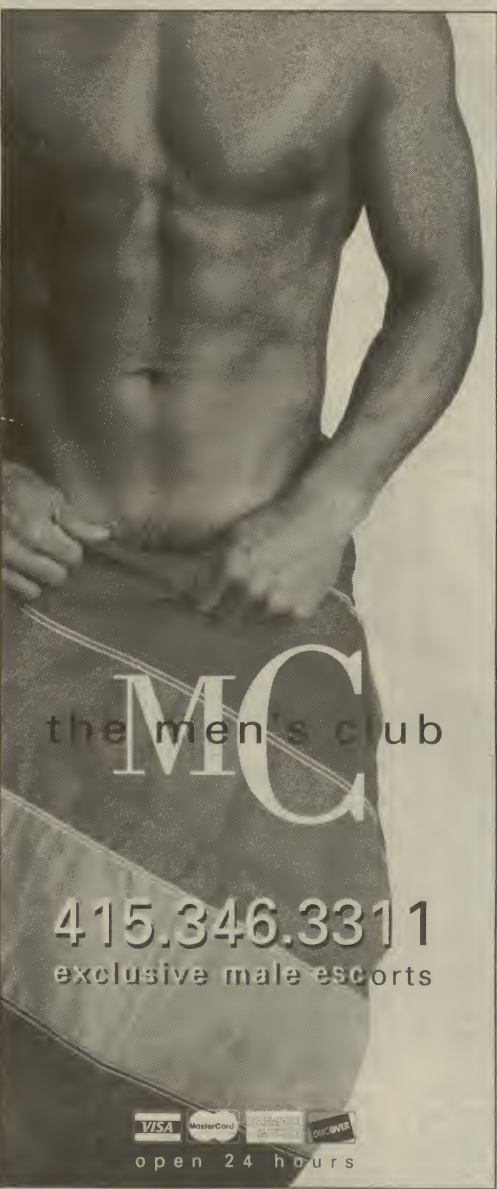
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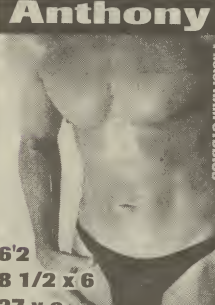
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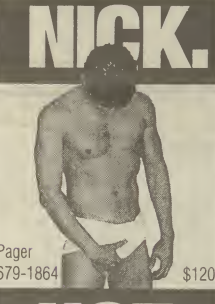
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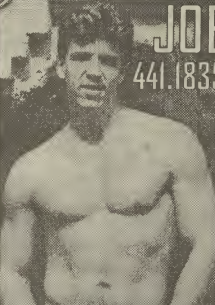
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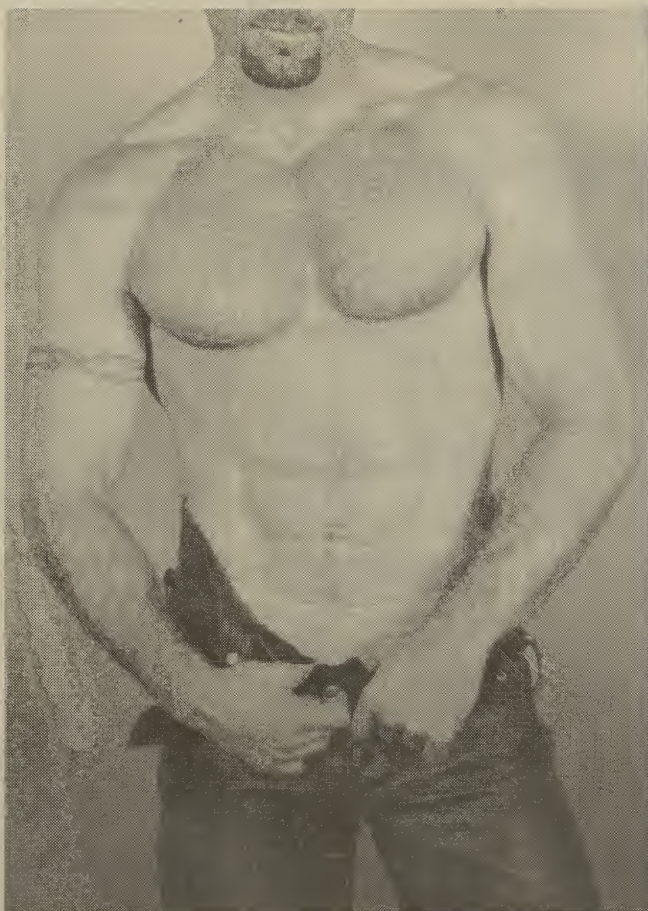
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